Purpose & Methods

PrEP not accepted

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- Young women in sub-Saharan Africa are an important population who could benefit from PrEP, and
- Oral pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) is highly effective when used consistently, and
- 100% PrEP accepted
- 60%
- 80%

Background

Figure 1: PrEP uptake overall and by site

Rationale

Women interested in PrEP were enrolled regardless of initial decision to initiate PrEP.

Prep Adherence Methods

Weekly two-way SMS messages that ask "Hi girlfriend, how is it going?" to identify those with side effects or other issues for staff to respond to and a PrEP adherence wearable.

Weekly adherence counseling

Table 2: VOICE risk score and STD prevalence among PrEP acceptors and non-base line

Table 1: Demographics and sexual behavior for women who started PrEP at enrollment, overall and by site

RESULTS: Characters of Women Who Started PREP

RESULTS: Prep Uptake: Risk Behaviors and STI Prevalence

Depression and intimate partner violence among PrEP acceptors at baseline

CONCLUSIONS

- In this PrEP demonstration project among South African and Zimbabwean young women, most young women were enrolled through existing partners, uncertain about their partner's HIV status or whether he had other partners, and inconsistent condom use.
- The median score on the VOICE risk score was 7; score >5 was associated with 6–8% HIV incidence in prior participants. There was no difference in VOICES risk score among women who accepted or declined PrEP.
- The prevalence of curable STIs (gonorrhea, chlamydia, syphilis, and trichomonas) was 39%, highlighting the importance of delivering better STI diagnostic strategies and interventions for young women.
- Almost half of young women had symptoms of depression and reported one or more types of intimate partner violence in the past year.
- Although the perceived risk of acquiring HIV in the next year was high (95%), a high proportion of women believed that PrEP would prevent them from getting HIV; over-anxious were concerned that PrEP would give them side effects.

References

