Background

HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) in Thailand

Since 2014, the Thailand National Guidelines have recommended the use of PrEP to prevent HIV among persons at risk.

In March 2016, Silom Community Clinic (SCC) began PrEP provision to men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender women (TGW) in Bangkok, Thailand.

SS Community Clinic (SCC)

- Partners with the Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) and PrEP project at the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, Thailand.
- SCC is a clinical trial site conducting biomedical HIV prevention research.
- Clinical services include HIV voluntary counseling and testing (VCT), HIV PrEP, HIV post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing, harm reduction, hepatitis B virus (HBV) vaccination.
- Men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender women (TGW) at risk of HIV infection are the clients who go to visit SCC.
- HIV PEP

Methods

- SCC routinely counselled MSM and TGW attending voluntary counseling and testing (VCT) about PrEP.
- Among the 166 clients who returned for at least one follow-up visit, 135 (80%) completed the CASI at the last follow-up visit.
- 109 (67%) having anal sexual intercourse without a condom, 99 (67%) had a sex partner with unknown or positive HIV status, 120 (81%) having a sex partner with unknown or positive HIV status, 109 (67%) having anal sexual intercourse without a condom, 99 (67%) had a sex partner with unknown or positive HIV status, 120 (81%) having a sex partner with unknown or positive HIV status.
- From March 3, 2016 to February 28, 2018, 192 unique clients were prescribed PrEP, and 80 (42%) continued PrEP at last visit, 120 (81%) having a sex partner with unknown or positive HIV status.
- Logistic regression to evaluate factors associated with loss to follow-up (never returning for a visit after PrEP initiation visit, or LFTU).
- Descriptive analysis of baseline and follow-up CASI results, for the first 24 months of PrEP implementation at SCC.
- Mean number of months between first and last visit = 6.7. Total observation time = 107.0 Person-Year.
- CDC-Hubert Global Health Fellowship

Results

- 16 (11%) receiving money or goods in exchange for sex in the last three months.
- 99 (67%) having anal sexual intercourse without a condom.
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Conclusions

- There is a disconnect between behavior and what a client believes is substantial risk for HIV.
- CDC Disclaimer: The findings and conclusions reported in this paper are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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Table 1. Lab Testing Required for SCC PrEP Implementation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>CDC/Local Lab</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CD4</td>
<td>1st Month; 6 months, 12 months</td>
<td>CDC/Local Lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV RNA</td>
<td>1st Month; 1 year, 2 years</td>
<td>CDC/Local Lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liver Tests</td>
<td>1st Month; 1 year, 2 years</td>
<td>CDC/Local Lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urine Tests</td>
<td>1st Month; 1 year, 2 years</td>
<td>CDC/Local Lab</td>
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Figure 1. PEP enrollment over time at SCC

Figure 2. Age of SCC clients starting PrEP

Figure 3. Where did the client learn about PrEP?

Figure 4. What were the Risk behaviors among clients receiving PrEP who received money/goods in exchange for sex?