

**AIDS
2020**

23RD INTERNATIONAL AIDS CONFERENCE

VIRTUAL

6 - 10 JULY 2020

Bringing PrEP closer to home: Why diversifying service models matters

AVAC, PATH, International AIDS Society (IAS)



Community-led delivery of PrEP for men who have sex with men and transgender people in Thailand

Nittaya Phanuphak, MD, PhD

Executive Director

Institute of HIV Research and Innovation (IHRI)

Princess PrEP: Key population-led, free, same-day PrEP service

**UNAIDS
Goodwill
Ambassador
for HIV Prevention
in Asia-Pacific
(2019-2020)**



A prevention partnership between the Princess and the people: Princess and public donation fund, USAID LINKAGES fund, GPO, Mylan and Hetero

ROLES OF KP LAY PROVIDERS IN PrEP DISPENSING

Trained KP lay providers dispense free PrEP from the Princess Soamsawali Prevention Fund, covering half of all current PrEP users

1

Assess risk and provide PrEP counseling

2

Perform HIV testing and send samples for creatinine and HbsAg

3

Dispense PrEP to HIV-negative client to start on that day, based on doctor's standing order

4

In consultation with the doctor, call to inform the clients of lab results a few days later

5

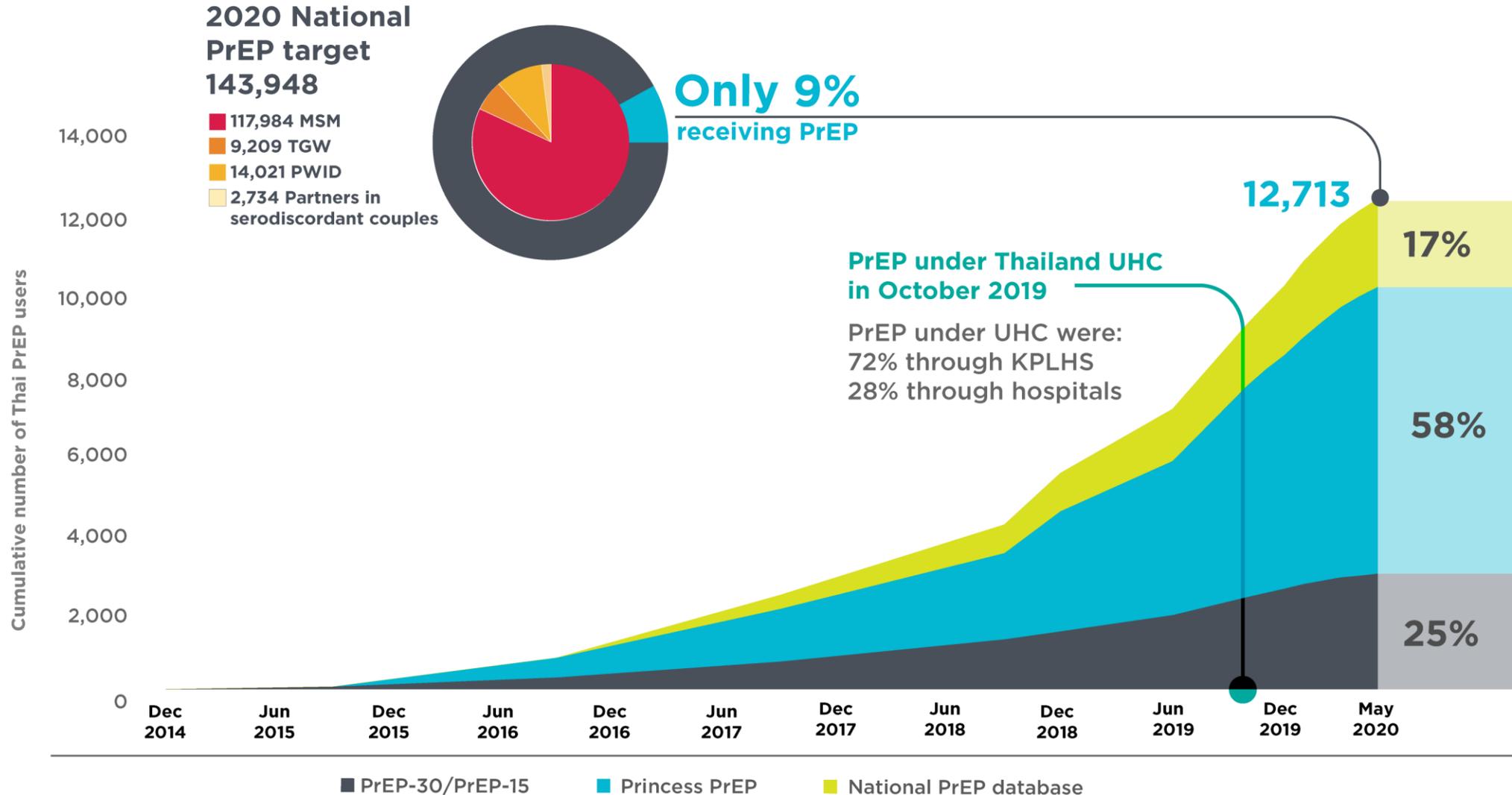
Provide PrEP follow-up visits

Princess PrEP provision through key population-led health services (KPLHS)

- Services are identified by the community itself and are, therefore, **needs-based, demand-driven, and client-centered**
- A set of services, focusing on specific health priorities, **designed by key populations**
- Delivered by trained and qualified **lay providers**, who are often members of the key populations



PrEP supply is not enough under Thailand Universal Health Coverage, Princess PrEP needs to continue



KPLHS was legalized in 2019, but domestic financing to KPLHS is limited to HIV testing

55%

of MSM & TGW tested for HIV nationwide in 2018

36%

of newly diagnosed HIV-positive cases among MSM & TGW nationwide in 2018

55%

of Thai PrEP users in 2018

received services at 10 community health centers in 6 provinces



Source: USAID LINKAGES project and Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre, December 2018.



Clinical service roles legalized for KP lay providers

- Sampling and rapid/point-of-care testing for HIV and STIs
- PrEP, PEP, ART and oral STI treatment dispensing

Building block of Princess PrEP service

Pre-COVID	PrEP Screening, initiation and early follow-up (0-3 months)			PrEP continuation (+3 months)
	Screening	PrEP initiation visit	Initial follow-up	Routine clinical follow-up
WHEN <i>Service frequency</i>	Same-day		Months 1, 3	Every 3 months
WHERE <i>Service location</i>	KP-led clinics		KP-led clinics	KP-led clinics
WHO <i>Service provider</i>	KP lay providers dispense PrEP (which is prescribed remotely by doctors)		KP lay providers	KP lay providers
WHAT <i>Service package</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same-day HIV/syphilis testing • Cr, HBsAg (results come later) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PrEP counseling 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIV testing • PrEP counseling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIV testing • Syphilis testing and Cr (every 6 months) • PrEP counseling

Adaptations in light of COVID-19 (1)

- KP lay providers in community-based clinics are not prioritized during PPE shortages
- Self-made plastic shields and various types of protective box/panel/frame



Adaptations in light of COVID (2)

- Telehealth
- Xpress services
- STI self-sampling have become feasible over these times



PrEP 'effective use' concept introduced to MSM clients

จงอ่านต่อ...

หากคุณเป็นชายมีเพศสัมพันธ์กับชาย

ไม่มีเชื้อไวรัสตับอักเสบบี และพบว่าช่วงนี้คุณไม่ได้มี sex บ่อย (<2 ครั้งต่อสัปดาห์) แต่ไม่อยากออกจากบ้านไปรับยาเพิ่ม เพราะกลัว COVID-19...

PrEP ย่อมาจาก Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis คือยาที่ใช้ในการป้องกันเชื้อ HIV ก่อนการสัมผัสโรค มีประสิทธิภาพเกือบ 100% แนะนำให้ชายที่มีเพศสัมพันธ์กับชาย ทาน PrEP เฉพาะช่วงที่มีความเสี่ยงเท่านั้น โดยไม่จำเป็นต้องทาน PrEP ทุกวัน ซึ่งสามารถทำได้ด้วยวิธี ดังนี้

- 1 วางแผนการมี sex ล่วงหน้า และทาน PrEP 2 เม็ด อย่างน้อย 2-24 ชั่วโมง ก่อนการมี sex
- 2 มี sex
- 3 ทาน PrEP ทุก 24 ชม. ในขณะที่มี sex ต่อเนื่องหลายวัน
- 4 หากคุณเลิกมี sex ในช่วงนั้นแล้ว ทาน PrEP วันละ 1 เม็ด ต่ออีก 2 วัน นับจากวันที่มี sex ครั้งสุดท้าย แล้วจึงหยุดทาน PrEP ได้

- Issues with raw materials and generic drugs shipment and custom clearance causing unstable supply chain
- Choose to stop/re-start and tailor daily/event-driven PrEP use, according to risks

Building block of Princess PrEP service

Post-COVID	PrEP Screening, initiation and early follow-up (0-3 months)			PrEP continuation (+3 months)
	Screening	PrEP initiation visit	Initial follow-up	Routine clinical follow-up
WHEN <i>Service frequency</i>	Same-day		Months 1, 3	Every 3 months/6 months
WHERE <i>Service location</i>	KP-led clinics		KP-led clinics	KP-led clinics/Telehealth
WHO <i>Service provider</i>	KP lay providers dispense PrEP (which is prescribed remotely by doctors)		KP lay providers	KP lay providers
WHAT <i>Service package</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same-day HIV/syphilis testing • Cr, HBsAg (results come later) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PrEP counseling 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIV testing • PrEP counseling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Xpress, self-sampling/testing for HIV/STIs • Syphilis testing and Cr (every 6 months) • PrEP/effective use counseling

Conclusions

- KPLHS, designed and co-delivered by key populations, increased HIV service uptake among MSM and TGW over the past 5 years
- **KP-led, free, same-day PrEP service** is the main delivery model to scale-up PrEP in Thailand
- Although KP lay providers are now legalized to dispense PrEP in KP-led clinics, service still could not be reimbursed
- Longer than 3-month scripting, telehealth, Xpress service, self-sampling, and PrEP effective use counseling will become the new normal

Acknowledgement



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



PEPFAR

LINKAGES
*Across the Continuum of HIV
Services for Key Populations*

fhi360
THE SCIENCE OF IMPROVING LIVES



สมาคมฟ้าสีรุ้งแห่งประเทศไทย
Rainbow Sky Association of Thailand (RSAT)



SISTERS
CENTER FOR
TRANSGENDERS



Service Workers in Group Foundation



CAREMAT
Better Health is a better quality of life



มูลนิธิริเวนพลัส



33RD INTERNATIONAL AIDS CONFERENCE
VIRTUAL
6-10 MAY 2020



Thank you

AIDS
2020

