

**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

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

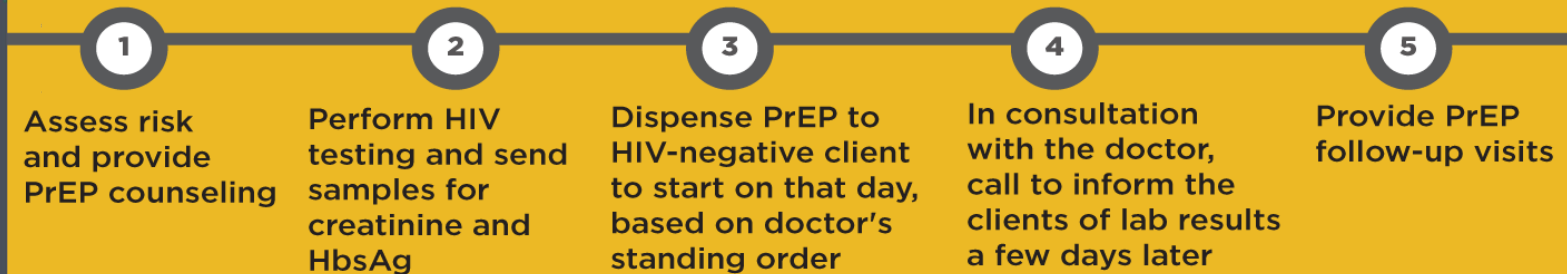
**UNAIDS  
Goodwill  
Ambassador  
for HIV Prevention  
in Asia-Pacific  
(2019-2020)**



**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**



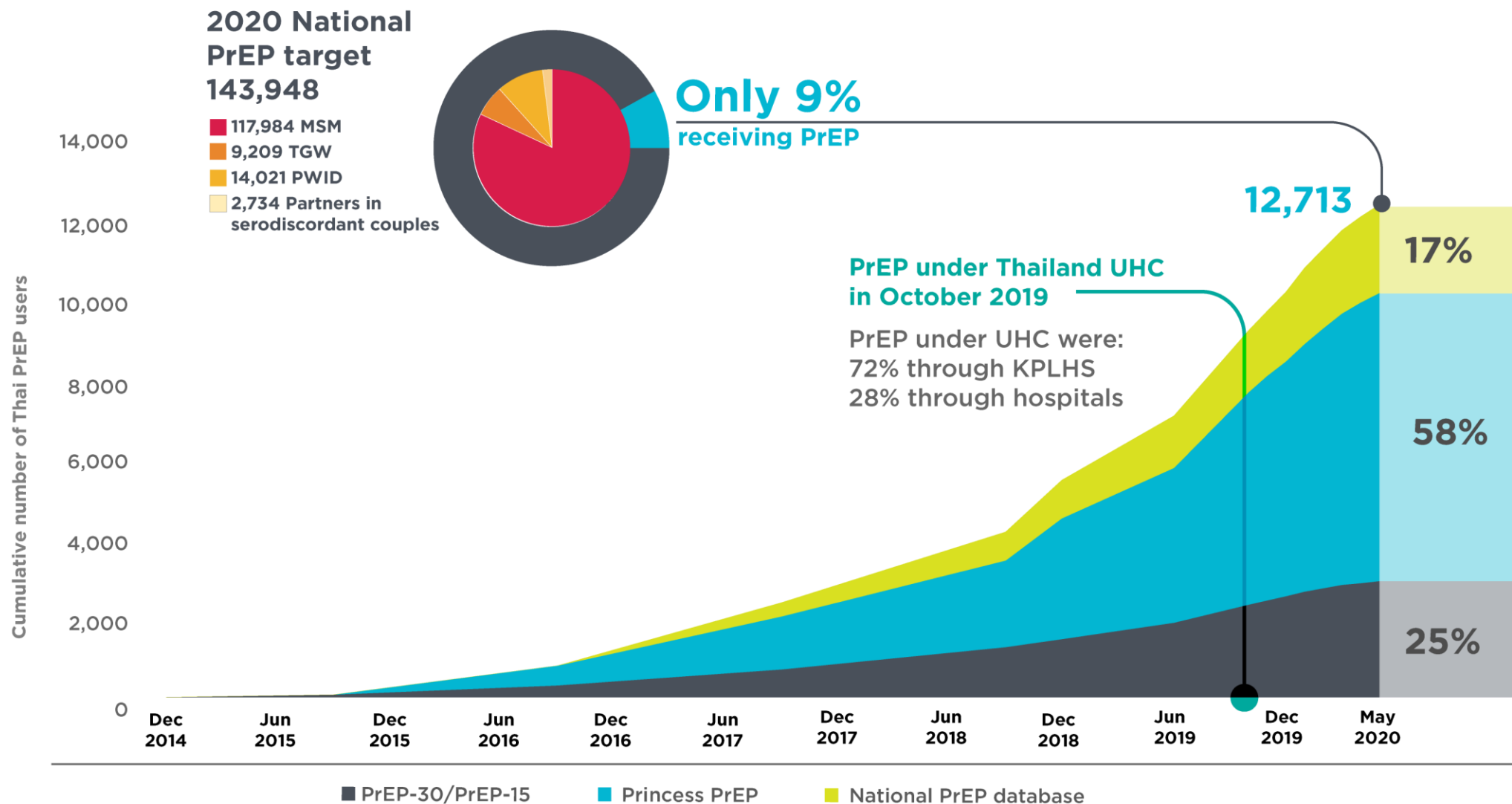
# Princess PrEP provision through key population-led health services (KPLHS)

- 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

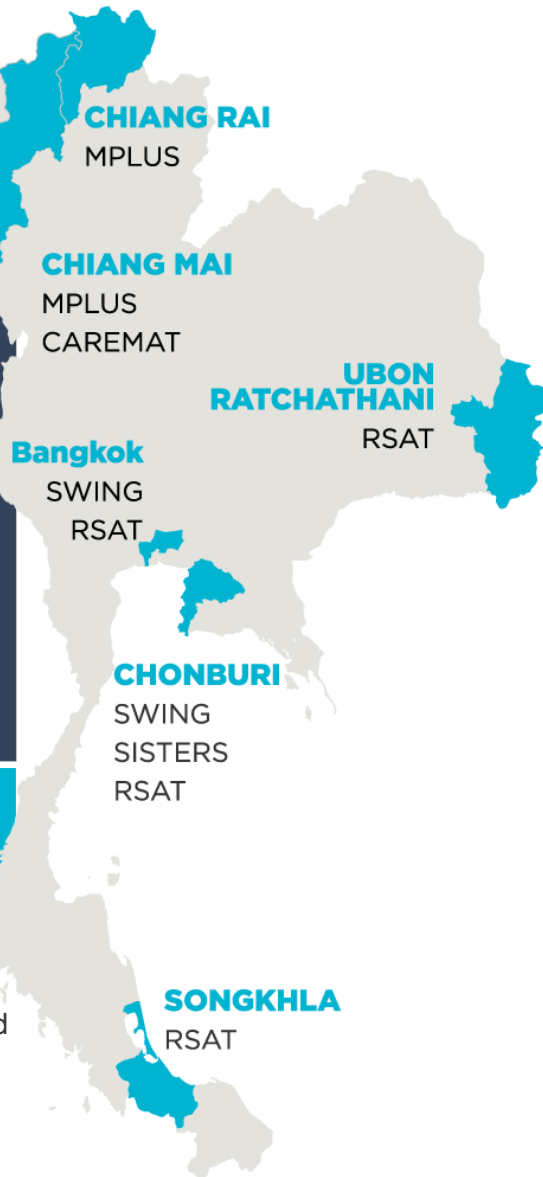
**36%**

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
<b>WHEN</b> <i>Service frequency</i>	Same-day		Months 1, 3	Every 3 months
<b>WHERE</b> <i>Service location</i>	KP-led clinics		KP-led clinics	KP-led clinics
<b>WHO</b> <i>Service provider</i>	KP lay providers dispense PrEP (which is prescribed remotely by doctors)		KP lay providers	KP lay providers
<b>WHAT</b> <i>Service package</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same-day HIV/syphilis testing</li> <li>• Cr, HBsAg (results come later)</li> <li>• PrEP counseling</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HIV testing</li> <li>• PrEP counseling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HIV testing</li> <li>• Syphilis testing and Cr (every 6 months)</li> <li>• PrEP counseling</li> </ul>



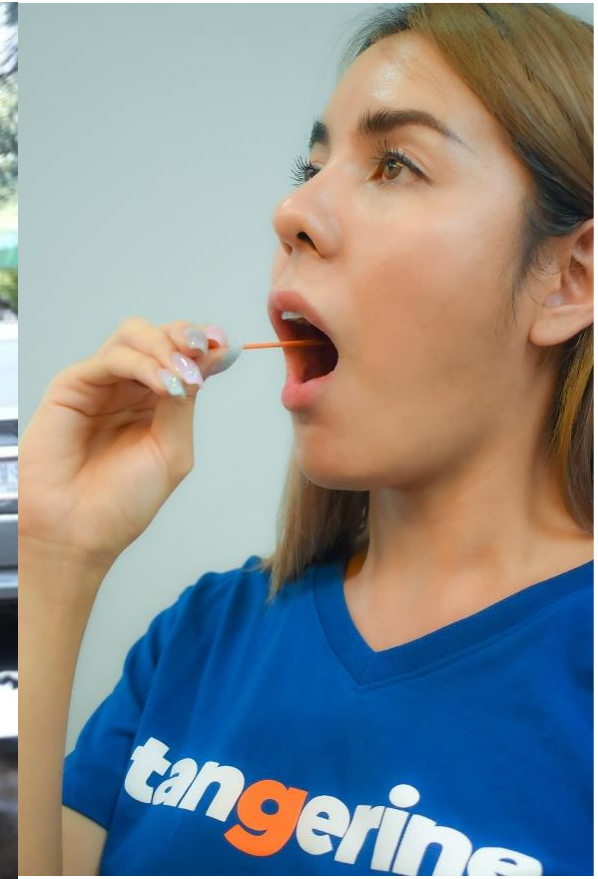
# Adaptations in light of COVID-19 (1)

- 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



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

# 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





Thank you

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