

# AVAC

Global Advocacy for HIV Prevention

Proven strategies for today and research for tomorrow. A global source for updates, advocacy and information on biomedical HIV prevention.

[www.avac.org](http://www.avac.org)

# Global Partners in Prevention Research Advocacy

## United States

Community Education Group, Inc. (CEG)

National AIDS Education & Services for Minorities, Inc. (NAESM)

Sex Workers Project at the Urban Justice Center

PxROAR members in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas, Fort Lauderdale, Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Oakland, Philadelphia, San Francisco, San Juan, Tallahassee and Washington

## Peru

Asociación Civil Selva Amazónica

Epicentro

## Brazil

Grupo de Incentivo à Vida (GIV)

Unidade de Pesquisa de Vacina Anti-HIV (UPSP)

## Germany

German Sexuality and Health Foundation (GSSG)

## United Kingdom

NAM

## Spain

Planeta Salud

## Nigeria

New HIV Vaccine and Microbicide Advocacy Society (NHVMAS)

Positive Action for Treatment Access (PATA)

## Rwanda

Health Development Initiative (HDI)

Institute of Human Virology of the University of Maryland School of Medicine (IHVSOM-IHV)

## Malawi

Centre for the Development of People (CEDEP)

## Namibia

Namibia Women's Health Network (NWHN)

## South Africa

AIDS Legal Network (ALN)

Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research in South Africa (CAPRISA)

Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation (DTHF)

Global Network of People living with HIV/AIDS (GNP+)

Perinatal HIV Research Unit (PHRU)

Sonke Gender Justice Forum

South African National AIDS Council (SANAC)

Southern African AIDS Trust (SAT)

Treatment Action Campaign (TAC)

Wits Reproductive Health and HIV Institute (WRHI)

World AIDS Campaign

## Europe

Migrant African MSM Sexual Health Group in Europe

WECARE+

## Uganda

Health Rights Action Group (HAG)

HEPS-Uganda (Coalition for Health Promotion and Social Development)

International Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS—East Africa

International HIV/AIDS Alliance

Makerere University Walter Reed Project (MUWRP)

Mama's Club

Uganda Network of AIDS Service Organisations (UNASO)

## China

China HIV/AIDS Information Network (CHAIN)

## Thailand

Thai AIDS Treatment Action Group (TTAG)

Thai NGO Coalition on AIDS (TNCA)

## Kenya

AIDS Law Project

Bar Hostess Empowerment and Support Programme

Health GAP

Kenya AIDS NGOs Consortium (KANCO)

Kenya AIDS Vaccine Initiative (KAVI)

Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI)

National Empowerment Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS in Kenya (NEPHAK)

Nyanza Reproductive Health Society (NRHS)

Partners' PrEP

University of Nairobi Centre for HIV Prevention & Research (UoN-CHIVPR)

Women Fighting AIDS in Kenya (WOFAK)

## Zambia

Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia (CIDRZ)

Treatment Advocacy and Literacy Campaign (TALC)

## Swaziland

Swaziland for Positive Living (SWAPOL)

## Zimbabwe

Centre for Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Research – Zimbabwe (CeSHHAR Zimbabwe)

University of Zimbabwe–University of California San Francisco Collaboration (UZ-UCSF)

Zimbabwe AIDS Prevention Project–University of Zimbabwe (ZAPP-UZ)

Zimbabwe Women Against HIV/AIDS, Poverty and Violence (ZWAAPV)

## International Partners

AVAC has long-standing relationships with a number of international and national groups, product-development partnerships and research networks including:

- AAVP
- GHTC
- IRMA
- AMAG
- Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise
- ITPC
- amFAR
- GNP+
- LSHTM
- ATHENA Network
- HPTN
- MSMGF
- BTG Bridge
- HVTN
- MTN
- EATG
- IAVI
- PATH
- Forum for Collaborative HIV Research
- ICW
- SAT
- FHI 360
- Imperial College
- TAG
- Georgetown
- IPM
- UNAIDS
- WHO

## Good Participatory Practice Initiative

In November 2007, UNAIDS and AVAC published *Good Participatory Practice (GPP) Guidelines for Biomedical HIV Prevention Trials*, which set global standards for stakeholder engagement in HIV prevention research. The updated 2011 version provides the first systematic framework for trial funders, sponsors and implementers to effectively engage a broad range of stakeholders throughout the research process—from trial design and planning, through conduct, results dissemination and post-trial access. Since 2008, AVAC has supported research and stakeholder groups in Africa, the Americas, Asia and Europe in various GPP efforts, such as: critical review and feedback on the first edition, trial site rollout and evaluation of practices, implementation in trials and implementation through ethics and regulatory bodies at national levels. AVAC has also developed a growing set of supplementary tools, including a participatory training manual, a trial site self-assessment toolkit and planning templates. The guidelines, including translated versions, and all tools are available at [www.avac.org/gpp](http://www.avac.org/gpp).

## HIV Prevention Research Advocacy Fellowship Program

The HIV Prevention Research Advocacy Fellowship Program provides support to emerging and mid-career advocates to implement projects related to biomedical HIV prevention research activities in their countries and communities. The program is designed to expand the capacity of civil society advocates and their host organizations to monitor, support and help shape biomedical HIV prevention research worldwide. The Advocacy Fellowship is guided by the belief that effective, sustainable advocacy grows out of work that reflects organizational and individual interests and priorities.

## National Stakeholder Engagement

National stakeholder engagement is different from the types of activities undertaken to prepare for and conduct a study in specific locations—although some groups may be involved in both trial-specific outreach and broader stakeholder engagement. One of the main differences is that, in this process, stakeholders are asked to provide input and guidance on steps that can happen in the short, medium and long term to prepare for the results from an ongoing study and/or to take action on implementing new research findings or prevention strategies, such as combination prevention.

## Prevention Research, Outreach, Advocacy and Representation (PxROAR)

The PxROAR program has two goals: to educate its members in HIV prevention research science, implementation and advocacy; and to provide a platform for specific prevention research advocacy campaigns. There are two cadres of PxROAR advocates: one based in the US and one based in Europe. Both groups represent the range of HIV-affected communities.

## Women's HIV Prevention Tracking Project (WHIPT)

WHIPT was launched in 2008 to support women's community-based efforts to monitor, evaluate and develop or expand advocacy around new and emerging HIV prevention strategies. The pilot phase, a collaboration with the ATHENA Network, focused on monitoring women's views of and concerns about implementation of voluntary medical male circumcision in five African countries. New WHIPT initiatives focus on tracking issues around hormonal contraceptives and HIV risk, oral PrEP using TDF/FTC for women, and efficacy trials of woman-controlled HIV prevention methods.

# About AVAC

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Founded in 1995, AVAC is an international non-profit organization that uses education, policy analysis, advocacy, community mobilization and a network of global collaborations to accelerate the ethical development and global delivery of biomedical HIV prevention options as part of a comprehensive response to the pandemic.

AVAC is dedicated to:

- Translating complex scientific ideas to communities and translating community needs and perceptions to the scientific community.
- Managing expectations about the process of product research and development, testing and delivery.
- Holding agencies accountable for accelerating ethical research, development and delivery of HIV prevention options.
- Expanding international partnerships to ensure local relevance and a global movement.
- Ensuring that policy and advocacy are based on evidence.
- Convening coalitions, partnerships, working groups and think tanks for specific issues.
- Developing and widely disseminating high-quality user-friendly materials.

AVAC focuses in four priority areas:

- Develop and advocate for policy options to facilitate the implementation of available biomedical HIV prevention options as well as the expeditious and ethical development and evaluation of new ones.
- Ensure that rights and interests of trial participants, eventual users and communities are fully represented and respected in the scientific, product development, clinical trial and access processes.
- Monitor HIV prevention research and development and mobilize political, financial and community support for sustained research as part of a comprehensive response.
- Build an informed, action-oriented global coalition of civil society and community-based organizations that exchange information and experiences.

For more information on AVAC's work and how to support it, please visit [www.avac.org](http://www.avac.org).

# Achieving the End: A science-based agenda to end the epidemic

For the first time, the end of the global AIDS epidemic is within reach. To capitalize on today's opportunities, the global AIDS response urgently needs a coherent, long-term plan. This plan needs to be:

- *Comprehensive*—Smart combinations of the potent tools at our disposal will be essential.
- *Science-based*—Implementation of new tools needs to be as rigorous as the science that created them.
- *Actionable*—Clear priorities, roles and timelines are essential to keep us on track for the long haul.
- *Optimistic, but realistic*—We have a long road ahead and will need to allow for setbacks along the way.

## Game Changers: Recent breakthroughs in HIV prevention research

- **Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision:** Trials in 2006 showed that this procedure reduces a man's risk of infection from a female partner by about 60 percent.
- **Topical Microbicides:** In 2010, an ARV-containing gel reduced women's risk of becoming infected by 39 percent in one trial. (In November 2011, the same gel showed no effect in a different trial. Clarifying the role of this tool is a must.)
- **Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP):** Four trials that released data between 2010 and 2013 showed that daily use of certain antiretroviral medicines reduced the risk of infection among gay men and transgender women (by 42 percent), serodiscordant couples (by up to 73 percent) and injection drug users (by 49 percent).
- **HIV Treatment as Prevention:** In 2011, a trial found that starting ART at CD4 cell count 350-500 reduced HIV-infected individuals' risk of transmission by 96 percent.
- **AIDS Vaccines:** In 2011, scientists found strong clues about why a protective vaccine changed HIV risk in the RV144 trial.

## Combination Prevention: Priority approaches

### TODAY

- **Test:** Scale up innovative, ethical HIV testing programs that link directly to prevention and treatment interventions.
- **Treat:** Expand access to early HIV treatment to preserve health and prevent transmission.
- **Circumcise:** Roll out VMMC, an effective and underutilized solution.

Integrate with **other prevention** tools—from condoms to clean needles to prevention of pediatric infection—for greater impact.

### THE FUTURE

- **PrEP and microbicides** (near- to mid-term): Evaluate in demonstration projects, carry out confirmatory research of tenofovir-based products and accelerate development of pipeline for long-acting, second-generation candidates.
- **AIDS vaccines and a cure** (mid- to long-term): Identify through sustained, well-funded and innovative research that follows the most promising leads.

## A Three-Part Agenda for Impact

AVAC has outlined a three-part agenda for ending the AIDS epidemic. It is intended as a vision and a challenge to the field, and a first step in holding all of us—civil society, researchers, governments, and funders—accountable for progress.

Each of the major priorities that follow demands action now—but the dividends will come in the short, medium and long terms.

### 1. DELIVER today's proven strategies at scale for immediate impact

- *Model* combination prevention programs to identify the parameters that have the greatest impact on reducing infection in different settings.
- *Mobilize demand* for new tools among people who could benefit the most and their health providers, through social marketing and other efforts.
- *Reprogram* existing resources when evidence shows they could be used to greater effect.

- *Fund* evidence-based scale-up today—and save money in the future—through substantial increases in commitments from European and low- and middle-income country funders.

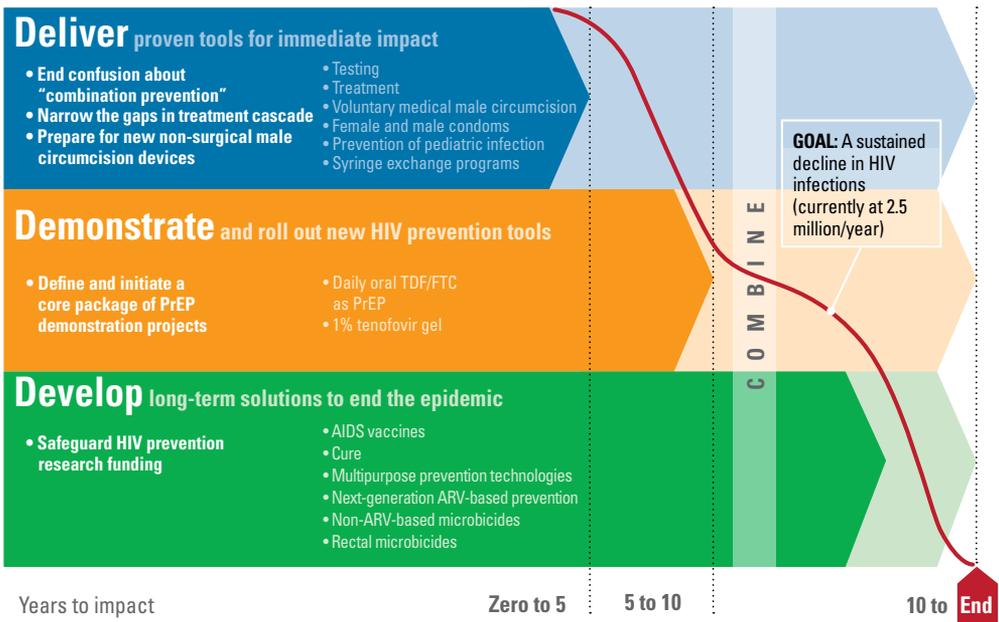
## 2. DEMONSTRATE and roll out newly available HIV prevention tools, including PrEP and microbicides, for even greater impact in five to ten years

- *Plan* for the introduction of PrEP and microbicides in the next several years and/or follow-on research to address outstanding questions.
- *Pilot* these interventions through demonstration projects that help define their optimal use and real-world impact.
- *Prioritize* the use of these interventions in populations, and in combinations, where the potential benefits are greatest.

## 3. DEVELOP long-term solutions—including an effective vaccine and a cure—that will enable us to close the door on AIDS

- *Sustain* funding for research to capitalize on recent scientific insights that have energized the search for an AIDS vaccine and a cure.

# A THREE-PART AGENDA FOR ENDING AIDS



# AVAC Resources

## WEBSITE

[www.avac.org](http://www.avac.org)



For the latest updates in HIV prevention, visit the **AVAC website**. It includes our publications as well as comprehensive coverage of the full range of biomedical HIV prevention interventions in an easy-to-use format that is searchable by intervention and by topic.

## PUBLICATIONS

[www.avac.org/publications](http://www.avac.org/publications)



**AVAC publications** aim to translate the complex issues of biomedical HIV prevention research for a range of audiences. We have materials that explain current scientific issues in simple language and other documents that explore the issues of trial participants and affected communities.

## DATABASES

[www.avac.org/pxrd](http://www.avac.org/pxrd) and [www.avac.org/researchliteracy](http://www.avac.org/researchliteracy)



The AVAC website hosts **two searchable databases**: one on biomedical HIV prevention research clinical trials, products and sites, and one that includes research literacy resources for understanding HIV prevention research.

## MAILING LISTS

[www.avac.org/maillinglists](http://www.avac.org/maillinglists)



The **Advocates' Network** is an electronic network for anyone interested in receiving timely updates about developments in the biomedical HIV prevention field.



**P-Values** is AVAC's monthly bulletin highlighting advocacy work by our partners and stakeholders around the world.



The **Weekly NewsDigest** is a compilation of media coverage, published research, policy news and materials on HIV prevention options.

## SOCIAL MEDIA



[www.facebook.com/hivpxresearch](http://www.facebook.com/hivpxresearch)

[www.twitter.com/hivpxresearch](http://www.twitter.com/hivpxresearch)

[www.youtube.com/hivpxresearch](http://www.youtube.com/hivpxresearch)



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