

Ensuring timely investment in new HIV prevention interventions for Adolescent young girls and women



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OBEJECTIVES

1. To advocate for clear next steps on ring approval, access and the development of guidelines for implementation in Malawi by April 2019.
2. To support advocate efforts to finance rollout and expand of PrEP access as part of combination prevention amongst adolescent young girls, women by April 2019.
3. To build ongoing ways for advocates to stay updated, informed and involved in discussions around HIV prevention research - so that they are better able to engage and influence the research agenda in Malawi by April 2019.



1) Media Engagement

- Conducted 8 radio programmes, 6 TV programmes, public debates, writing news paper articles and being feature in the newspaper about dapivirine ring and PrEP.
- Established a team of media advocates on biomedical HIV Prevention in Malawi.

2) Dapivirine ring and PrEP advocacy

- Initiated talks with policy makers on the possible introduction of dapivirine ring as a new HIV prevention option & PrEP will roll out soon.
- Developed a ring scenario plan for Malawi.
- Establish task team to work on ring advocacy after the approval.

3) Build capacity of CSOs to get engaged in HIV prevention research advocacy

- Established the CSO advocacy forum southern region
- Built the capacity of CSO in biomedical research advocacy, through the clinical trial sites.
- Linked with clinical trial site and supported the enrollment of trial participants. HPTN 084.
- Supporting ring and Prep upcoming studies: Deliver and Be protected.
- Established biomedical HIV prevention Youth advocates forum.

Lessons Learnt

- Advocacy takes time realize the gains. Therefore it is important to celebrate the quick gains.
- Knowing and working with your allies is essential, when pushing for an advocacy agenda.
- All objectives sometimes can not be achieved in your year of fellowship, but you initiative the processes.
- Advocacy is different from project management.