

CASPR is a Cooperative Agreement with the US Agency for International Development (USAID) initiated in 2016 aimed toward the acceleration of biomedical HIV prevention research and equitable access to and introduction of HIV prevention products.

Overview

Amidst a flat envelope of global resources for the overall HIV response, the HIV prevention field is challenged with scaling up proven prevention options while sustaining momentum in research and development (R&D) of next-generation HIV prevention products. People need a rich array of effective choices that work for their life circumstances – urgently and at scale. As the prevention field evolves, we continue to learn that once products are shown to work, programs, policies and funding must match the needs of affected communities and overcome the barriers that have blocked or slowed access in the past, while at the same time, accelerating R&D of the prevention pipeline. CASPR’s wide array of initiatives take on these challenges.

About CASPR

CASPR is a coalition of 12 partners working together to change how HIV prevention is pursued and delivered. Core partners include Advocacy for Prevention of HIV & AIDS (APHA), Copper Rose Zambia, FHI 360, the HIV/AIDS Vaccine Ethics Group (HAVEG), the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI), Internews, the New HIV Vaccine & Microbicide Advocacy Society (NHVMAS), Pangaea Zimbabwe AIDS Trust (PZAT), Treatment Advocacy and Literacy Campaign (TALC), WACI Health, Wits Reproductive Health & HIV Institute (Wits RHI) and AVAC as prime. WACI Health also serves as secretariat for Africa Free of New HIV Infections (AfnHi) – a regional, Africa-led advocacy network supported by CASPR. CASPR engages a range of stakeholders in HIV, tuberculosis, sexual and reproductive health (SRH), pandemic preparedness, prevention and response, and more to ensure an integrated and comprehensive response.



Figure 1: Coalition at the CASPR Annual Meeting in Johannesburg, SA in August 2023

CASPR activities are focused primarily in African countries with the highest burden of new HIV infections, and where biomedical HIV prevention research is ongoing or planned. CASPR core partners are based in India, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, United States, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.



The Coalition:

- Supports **advocacy networks** to strengthen and expand a global cadre of informed, action-oriented advocates who advance an agenda for HIV prevention research
- **Translates research** and shares accessible resources with advocates and others to ensure scientific advancements translate with policies and practices that uphold the needs and interests of all stakeholders, particularly trial participants and the communities research is intended to benefit
- Conducts **research preparedness** to ensure that rights & interests of trial participants, eventual users and communities are represented and respected throughout the process, from research to rollout
- **Advocates for policies** that support efficient and ethical development, introduction and use of new HIV prevention options

Impact

CASPR has created a platform to support, expand and advance African-centered leadership on the crucial advocacy that's needed to ensure a robust pipeline of prevention options reach the people who need them most. In six years, the CASPR project has:

- Ensured the design of next-generation HIV prevention trials reflect and incorporate stakeholder perspectives by following Good Participatory Practice Guidelines.
- Influenced the development of policies to invest in domestic financing for HIV prevention R&D.
- Advanced a women-centered research agenda that centers choice, integrates SRH R&D, coordinates with strategies to ensure access to proven products and anticipates the introduction of multi-purpose prevention technologies (MPTs).
- Built consensus around priorities for the pipeline of HIV prevention R&D to influence funders, researchers, and other decision makers.
- Trained hundreds of young advocates who have gone on to shape research agendas, change policy, champion community perspectives, demystify HIV prevention research and strengthen healthcare systems.

Select CASPR resources and platforms:



For more information about CASPR, please contact:

- Stacey Hannah, CASPR Project Director, AVAC: stacey@avac.org
- Ashley Lima, CASPR Agreement Officer Representative, USAID/Office of HIV/AIDS: aslima@usaid.gov

