



Study of Twice-Yearly Injectable Drug Lenacapavir Prevents HIV among African Cisgender Women Shows No New HIV Diagnoses and is Efficacious and Superior to Daily Oral Truvada

What does this mean for Black Communities in the US?

PrEP in Black America (PIBA) and the Black Public Health Academy (BPHA) joins in the [welcoming](#) support for interim results from an ongoing Phase 3 study PURPOSE 1 ([NCT04994509](#)), conducted by Gilead Sciences, Inc., to evaluate the efficacy of HIV medications lenacapavir (LEN; an investigational and emtricitabine/tenofovir alafenamide (TAF) among cisgender adolescent girls and young women ages 16-25 in Uganda and South Africa, who are among the population most affected by HIV globally.

Findings showed that twice-yearly injectable medication LEN to prevent HIV was superior to oral emtricitabine tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (Brand name Truvada) and most notable that there were zero new HIV cases among women taking LEN. The landmark PURPOSE 1 is part of [several studies being conducted by Gilead Sciences](#), Inc. to evaluate the safety and efficacy of LEN among diverse global populations including sexual and gender minority men and transgender people in the US, South Africa, Peru, Brazil, Mexico, Argentina and Thailand.

While we anxiously anticipate additional results from PURPOSE 1, we look forward to [PURPOSE 3](#), the first HIV prevention clinical trial to include cisgender women in the US who comprise nearly 20% of new HIV diagnoses in the US.

We applaud Gilead Sciences, Inc. for its commitment to ethical clinical research among racial and ethnic and sexual diverse populations. This is a step in the right direction towards bridging gaps in participation in HIV clinical research among historically excluded populations and increasing scientific knowledge around PrEP. For cisgender women, this includes supporting the choice to participate in research during pregnancy and lactation.

For Black communities in the US, these study findings bring great promise of yet another HIV prevention tool. [PIBA](#) and [BPHA](#); organizations led for and by Black people concerned

about HIV prevention among Black people, advocate for HIV prevention modalities accessible to ALL Black people, in all of our diversities, at the same [time](#).

We urge Gilead Sciences Inc., to continue to learn from experiences of the [past](#) that have stifled equitable access to PrEP among cisgender women, especially Black cisgender women. As part of future efforts we continue to be mindful of the power of a Black led response to address HIV.

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About PIBA

PrEP in Black America (PIBA) is an intersectionality informed social justice movement comprised of Black advocates, activists, researchers, policy-makers, and people living with and affected by HIV from communities disproportionately affected by HIV in the US. We are organized to: 1) Energize the Black public health workforce to lead the HIV prevention response; 2) Educate Black people in the science and effectiveness of PrEP; and 3) Support a federally-funded National PrEP program. *Contact* PIBA@blackpublichealthacademy.com. Follow PIBA on Instagram @prepinblackamerica

About BHPA

Black Public Health Academy seeks to empower Black health leaders and foster positive change. Join us in shaping a healthier tomorrow. For inquiries contact: Leisha@blackpublichealthacademy.com. Follow BHPA on Instagram @blackpublichealthacademy