

EFFECT OF PRE-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS ON THE PREVENTION OF HIV/AIDS IN THE CITY OF DOUALA.

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Background:

HIV infection remains a considerable public health problem in many regions and populations. In Cameroon, HIV prevalence among men who have sex with men (MSM) is 44.4% in Yaoundé and 25.5% among female sex workers (FSW) in Douala. To prevent HIV spread, Cameroon implemented PrEP in 2019. Our objective was to examine the effectiveness of the program to date.

Methods:

Alcondoms Cameroon is a country-wide community-based organization that delivers PrEP to MSM and FSW. Peer-workers go into the communities douala to inform MSM and FSW about the availability of PrEP and to offer uptake. We document the number of MSM and FSW that have been (i) reached by the program, (ii) mobilized, (iii) were identified as being eligible and (iv) and after verification of negative HIV status and negativity to other tests were initiated on PrEP.

Results:

Since January and until March 2023, 1223 MSM and 2588 FSW have been reached by the program. Among MSM, 282 (23.1%) have been mobilized, 65 (5.2%) have been identified as being eligible for PrEP and 48 (3.9%) were initiated on PrEP. Among FSW, these figures are 575 (22.2%), 109 (4.2%) and 70 (2.7%), respectively.

Alcondoms has an active file of 1291 (646 MSM, 645 STs) and in the last two years no seroconversion has been recorded, which shows the effectiveness of this method.

Conclusion:

the effectiveness of PrEP has been proven in several and also in Cameroon, but the question is how long negative people will be on treatment to avoid HIV What about injectable PrEP?