Why Condoms Still Matter

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Condoms:
Multipurpose Devices

Male and female condoms are the only barrier methods that simultaneously protect sexual partners against:

1) STIs
2) HIV
3) Unintended pregnancy
Are condoms still relevant today?
The PARTNER study looked at HIV transmission risk in discordant couples — both gay and straight — where one person is on HIV treatment and has an undetectable viral load and the other is HIV negative.

HIV treatment prevents HIV transmission

The study concluded that even after 58,000 sex acts by 1,166 couples not using condoms (1.3 years per couple), there were no cases of HIV transmission!
“There is no evidence that individuals who have successfully achieved and maintained viral suppression through ART transmit the virus sexually to their HIV-negative partner(s).”

“People living with HIV who take HIV medicine as prescribed and keep an undetectable viral load have effectively no risk of transmitting HIV to their HIV-negative sexual partners.”

CDC, 2017

What about other prevention options?
PrEP is highly effective against HIV!

#PrEPWORKS

Your risk of getting HIV from sex can be even lower if you combine PrEP with condoms and other prevention methods.

https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/basics/prep.html

PrEP works, when taken.

Daily PrEP reduces the risk of getting HIV from sex by more than 90%.

Among people who inject drugs, PrEP reduces the risk of getting HIV by more than 70%.
VMMC is OK

Circumcision is **60% effective** for heterosexual HIV-negative men.

It has an indirect benefit for women and girls.

Get circumcised!

CDC, 5 December 2016 & Blashill et al. CID 2015:60 (Suppl 3)
So... sex without a condom?
For millions, that is just not an option!

**THE ART GAP:**

| 36.9 m PLHIV (UNAIDS 2017) | vs. | 21.7 m on ART | = | 41% PLHIV have no access to ART |

**THE ART ISSUES:**

- 53% on ART have no viral suppression
- 215,000 people use PrEP (UNAIDS 2017)
- 2/3 of these are in the US

?• How to deliver PrEP on a large scale?
• Who will pay for it?

• How to make it accessible?
• Adherence to treatment protocol?
357 million curable STIs a year*

536 m HSV-2 cases
291 m HPV cases

Unknown:
Zika & Ebola cases through sex

Concerns with STIs:
- Lack of symptoms
- Drug resistance
- Drug shortages
- Lack of lab facilities
- Only two vaccines

Drug Shortage:
Benzathine Penicillin G is the only drug used to treat PMTCT of syphilis. WHO & CHAI evaluated the shortage of BPG in 114 countries. Of the 95 that responded, 41% reported a shortage.

WHO, December 2017

*gonorrhea, chlamydia, trichomoniasis, syphilis

WHO websites, 2016
Superbug STIs

Simply put, the term **superbug** refers to “bacteria that cannot be killed using multiple antibiotics.”
Consequences of STIs

**PHYSICAL**

- Bleeding
- Diarrhea
- Discomfort
- Abdominal pain
- HPV
- HIV acquisition
- Gonorrhea
- Chlamydia
- Ebola
- Herpes
- Syphilis
- Trichomoniasis
- Zika
- Burning sensation
- Mucus
- Pus
- Fever
- Ulcers
- Pre-term delivery
- GUD
- Inflammation
- Drug resistance
- Cardiovascular
- Untreatable infection
- Infertility
- Reinfecion
- Prematurity
- Low birth weight
- Cervical cancer
- Other STI acquisition
- Fistulae
- Swelling
- Itching
- Skin lesions
- Difficulty with defecation
- Hemorrhage
- Blisters
- Ulcerative pharyngitis
- Lymph node abscess
- Perinatal death/ Miscarriage
- Dysentery
- Recurrent STI
- Conjunctivitis
- Immunosuppression
- Stillbirth
- Mycoplasma infection

**SOCIAL**

- Partner violence
- Stigma
- Discrimination
- Criminalization
- Social exclusion
- Isolation

**PSYCHOLOGICAL**

- Depression
- Confusion
- Psychiatric disease
- Discrimination
- Mental disorders
- Anxiety
Unmet need for modern contraception

Worldwide, between 2010 and 2014, an estimated **44% of pregnancies were unintended**. Of these, 59% ended in abortion in developed regions, as did 55% in developing regions.
Percentage of women aged 15-49, married or in a union, using modern contraceptives, by method and region, latest data, 1970-2014i

Notes: "UNFPA global" refers to the weighted average of 156 UNFPA programme countries. Data for many developed countries may not reflect the most recent situation and therefore should be interpreted with caution.

Source: UNFPA analysis based on data from United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division. 2015. World Contraceptive Use 2015.

Source:
Percentage of unmarried sexually active adolescent girls using modern contraception, by region, latest data, 2005-2014i

Funding for male and female condoms is a smart investment

An additional investment of $27.5 billion in male condoms in 81 high-burden countries by 2030 would meet all unmet demands for family planning as part of a package of contraceptives.

It would also meet:

90% of the condom needs for HIV and STI prevention among high-risk groups.

And it could prevent:

- 700 million STIs
- 17 million HIV infections
- 420 million unintended pregnancies
