

HIV prevention programming

As the global HIV epidemic has grown it has become more apparent that a combination of prevention initiatives is needed to halt its spread.

This means more than just single programmes like condom provisioning. Instead, a more holistic approach to HIV prevention programming is needed that targets multiple causes of HIV transmission.

Here, we discuss some the main HIV prevention initiatives including voluntary medical male circumcision, harm reduction, prevention of mother-to-child transmission and treatment as prevention.

Next full review:
10 August 2019



[HIV prevention programmes overview](#)

[Prevention of mother-to-child transmission \(PMTCT\) of HIV](#)

[Voluntary medical male circumcision for HIV prevention](#)

A combination of HIV prevention initiatives that target key affected populations are required to stop the HIV epidemic.

Giving treatment to HIV-positive pregnant women and testing their baby at birth prevents the mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

Male circumcision reduces female-to-male HIV transmission by 60% and is a key prevention programme in sub-Saharan Africa.



[Treatment as prevention \(TasP\) for HIV](#)

[Pre-exposure prophylaxis \(PrEP\) for HIV prevention](#)

[Harm reduction programming](#)

Ensuring all people living with HIV are on treatment also has a public health benefit as it reduces the risk of onwards transmission by 96%.

Taken correctly, PrEP can reduce the risk of getting HIV to near-zero and is now regarded by UNAIDS as a key component of the Fast-Track response.

A combination of harm reduction for HIV prevention programmes are needed to protect people who use drugs and their sexual partners.
