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

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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.