

How are women affected by HIV in the UK?

- Often, people don't think of women when they think about HIV in the UK, yet lots of women are affected.
- In 2016, there were 31,600 women living with HIV in the UK, 31% of the total number of people living with HIV.
- 1,226 women were newly diagnosed with HIV in 2016, 24% of all new diagnoses. 47% of women were diagnosed late.
- 2017 saw a significant decrease, the first since the start of the epidemic, in diagnoses in gay men in the UK. This is linked to increased testing, access to PrEP, and early diagnosis and treatment. There was no equivalent drop for women.

Source: HIV in the UK: 2016 and 2017 reports, Public Health England



Prevention for women in the UK

- We have never invested in targeted HIV prevention for women in the UK and our HIV response is not gendered.
- There are prevention programmes targeted to reach African people, but funding and focus has dissipated in recent years.
- Decreases in new diagnoses for heterosexuals have been attributed to changes in migration patterns, rather than success in prevention.
- For white heterosexual women new HIV diagnoses have remained relatively stable (although a low number) at around 750 per year over the past decade.



Advocating for PrEP for women

- We sit on the Community Advisory Board for the IMPACT trial, and have been advocating for women's access and inclusion in the trial.
- We developed a women and PrEP leaflet that clinics and community organisations can order and make available.
- We have used social media, blogs, and a sign-on statement to keep the pressure up.



Advocating for PrEP for women

- We have created a women-focused website to provide detailed, accessible information about PrEP to women in the UK.
- Created by volunteers, and written by women for women, the site is accessible, clear and comprehensive.
- Since launching on 27th November 2017, the site has received 529 unique users over 657 sessions.

<http://womenandprep.org.uk/>



Working together

- Since we launched, 55% of users have been in the UK.
- Lots of our visitors have been from Europe: 8% Germany, 6.4% France, 3% Romania, 1.5% Ukraine, 1.3% Ireland, 1.1% Switzerland, 1% Netherlands
- We would welcome the chance to work together, and add country-specific access information to our site to make the content relevant to women in different countries.

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