

QPrEP

A Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Demonstration Project

- Dr Darren Russell
- Cairns Sexual Health Service



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- “Can we implement PrEP in Queensland and if so, how can it work?”



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Project Aims



- To assess acceptability and feasibility of PrEP provision through sexual health clinics and general practice services (S100) in Queensland
- To assess the acceptability of this model of PrEP provision to participants, including adherence and side effects
- To develop Guidelines for PrEP provision in Queensland

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Study Design



- Multi-site, prospective, open-label PrEP demonstration project. Study sites:
- Cairns Sexual Health Service
- Clinic 87 Sunshine Coast Wide Bay Sexual Health
- Gladstone Road General Practice
- Stonewall Medical Centre (Dr Graham Neilsen)
- Gold Coast Sexual Health Service
- Townsville Sexual Health Service

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Study Participants



- 50 participants in total
- HIV negative MSM at higher risk of HIV acquisition through casual or positive partners in the last 3 months, currently or likely to in the next three months :
 - Unprotected anal sex with a regular HIV positive partner (not on treatment and/or has detectable viral load) within the last 3 months
 - Unprotected anal sex with any casual HIV positive or unknown partner during the last 3 months

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Eligibility



- 18 or older
- Able to give written informed consent
- HIV negative at enrolment
- Medicare eligible
- Willing and able to take part in all required study procedures
- Fluent in English
- Able to be contactable throughout the project duration

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Exclusions

- Confirmed HIV positive
- Signs of acute HIV infection
- Clinically significant medical problems (TB, Cardiac or kidney disease, malignancy)
- Hepatitis B positive
- Taking medications that can interact with Truvada
- Mental health and cognitive impairment issues
- Factors that may compromise a participants retention in the study
- Unwilling to adhere to any of the study procedures

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What's involved?

- Taking Truvada (tenofovir/emtricitabine) once a day
- Continued use of safe sex practises
- Consenting to be part of the study
- 6 study visits to the clinic during 12 months
- Pathology collection
- Screen and enrolment process
- Completion of short survey 3 times during the study



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Screening visit

- Inclusion/exclusion criteria check list
- Clinical assessment:
 - HIV & Syphilis
 - Urine, throat and anal screening
 - Hep B
 - Kidney function (Creatinine clearance)

HIV/STI risk discussion

PrEP discussion

Condoms and lube

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Enrolment visit

- Results
- Eligibility met?
- Discussion about adherence
- One month of Truvada
- Recap main points
- Participant study entry survey (demographic details, testing history, attitudes about PrEP)



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Ongoing monitoring

- Months 1, 3, 6 and 12
- Monitoring the real life experience with PrEP, practicalities and side effects
- STI screening and risk reduction

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