


Welcome! / ¡Bienvenido!

ACCESSING LAI PREP IN LA COUNTY: WHERE WE ARE AND WHERE WE NEED TO GO

Comó seleccionar la función de interpretación en español:

1. Los participantes deben de seleccionar el botón  “Interpretation” (interpretación) que tiene **un símbolo redondo de planeta en la parte baja de la página.**
2. Se debe de seleccionar el idioma “**Spanish**” (español) para poder escuchar la información en español.
3. Por último, se deben de seleccionar también las palabras que dicen “**Mute Original Audio Feature**” (apagar el audio original) para no escuchar el otro idioma al mismo tiempo, lo cual puede ser muy molesto y confundir a quien está escuchando.

Si tiene preguntas, comuníquese con Enrique Sanchez en el chat.

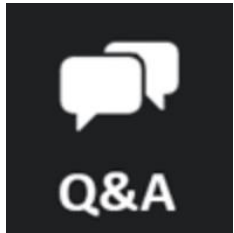
**The Equitable Injectable PrEP in LA County Initiative
presents**

Accessing LAI PrEP in LA County: Where We Are and Where We Need to Go

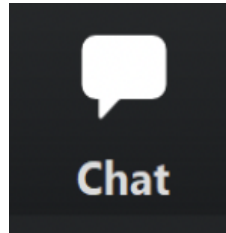
**Tuesday, May 2, 2023
10:00-11:30 AM PT**

Workshop Logistics

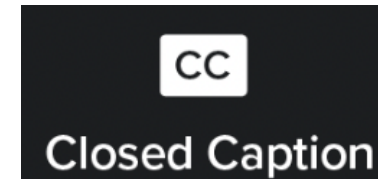
Use the **Q&A** function on your Zoom control panel to enter your questions at any time.



Use the **Chat** function on your Zoom control panel to share comments or resources with the group.



Select the **Closed Caption** option on your Zoom control panel to enable closed captions.



- ▶ Participants will be muted and videos will be disabled during the workshop.
- ▶ If you have technical issues, contact Elena Rosenberg-Carlson in the chat.

Las instrucciones para usar la interpretación en español se muestran en el chat.

Featured Presenters



Sonali Kulkarni, MD, MPH
Medical Director
Division of HIV and STD
Programs, LA County DPH



Richard Salazar, MPH
EHE Prevent Pillar Lead
Division of HIV and STD
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Kerry Ferguson
Community Engagement
Specialist
ViiV Healthcare



Tyler Curry-McGrath, MPA
Community Engagement
Manager
ViiV Healthcare



Luciano Dumonde
Public Health
Investigator
Long Beach Health and
Human Services



Ryan Clary
Consultant
End the Epidemics
Coalition

Initiative Funding and Team Members

- ▶ The ***Equitable Injectable PrEP in LAC Initiative*** is supported by an EHE supplement grant from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) awarded to the UCLA Center for HIV Identification, Prevention, and Treatment Service (CHIPTS).
- ▶ Our team includes:
 - ▶ Ronald A. Brooks, PhD, Principal Investigator
 - ▶ Dilara Üsküp, PhD, PhD, Policy and Access Coordinator
 - ▶ Elena Rosenberg-Carlson, MPH, Community Workshop Facilitator
 - ▶ Omar Nieto, BA, Project Coordinator
 - ▶ Zuri Inzunza, BA, Graduate Student Researcher

Collaborators



Friends Community Center

A Division of Friends Research Institute, Inc.



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
COMMISSION ON HIV



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
Public Health

Division of HIV and STD Programs

Initiative Background

- ▶ Historically, Latino/a and Black men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender women have continuously lagged behind more privileged and well-resourced White gay male populations in receiving information about the latest innovations in both HIV treatment and prevention.
- ▶ As a result, Latino/a and Black MSM and transgender women have not benefitted from early adoption of highly effective HIV innovations. This has contributed to the disparity in HIV that persists today in these populations.

Las instrucciones para usar la interpretación en español se muestran en el chat.

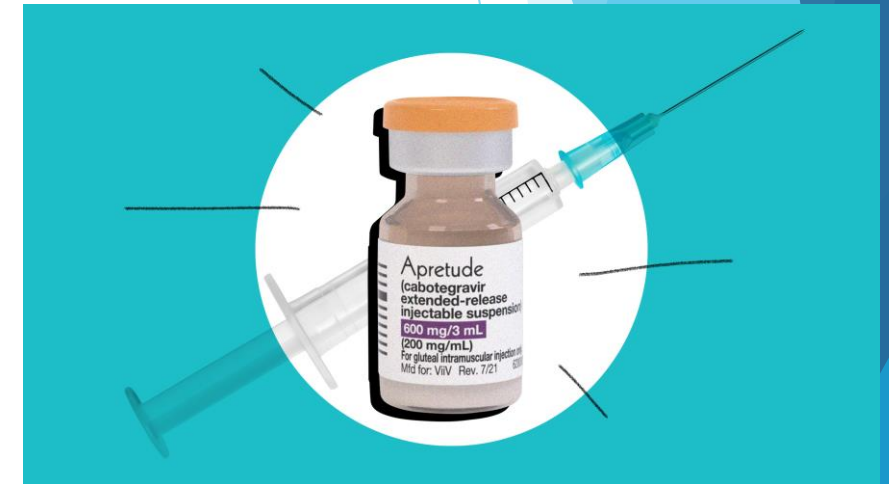
Initiative Goals

- ▶ This Initiative seeks to address the delay in disseminating information on the latest HIV innovation, Long-Acting Injectable Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (LAI PrEP), to Black and Latina/o transgender women and men who have sex with men (BLTW/MSM) in Los Angeles County.
- ▶ To do this, we are implementing a series of online community workshops to provide accurate and up-to-date information on LAI PrEP-related topics that are of relevance to BLTW/MSM consumers and their service providers.

What is Long-Acting Injectable PrEP?

Apretude (injectable PrEP) is the newest HIV prevention option

- ▶ FDA approved in December 2021
- ▶ 1 injection every 2 months
- ▶ To start: Optional oral tablets for 28 days
OR immediate injection
- ▶ Injection site: Muscle of buttocks



Workshop Agenda

I. Gift Card Raffle

II. Presentations

- A. LA County DHSP presentation on overall landscape of PrEP access in LAC
- B. ViiV presentation on LAI PrEP access programs and community engagement efforts
- C. Long Beach HHS presentation on strategies and success stories linking clients to LAI PrEP in LAC
- D. End the Epidemics Coalition presentation on strategies to advocate and mobilize for increased access to LAI PrEP

III. Gift Card Raffle

IV. Facilitated Discussion and Q&A

V. Evaluation and Closing Remarks



Los Angeles County PrEP Landscape



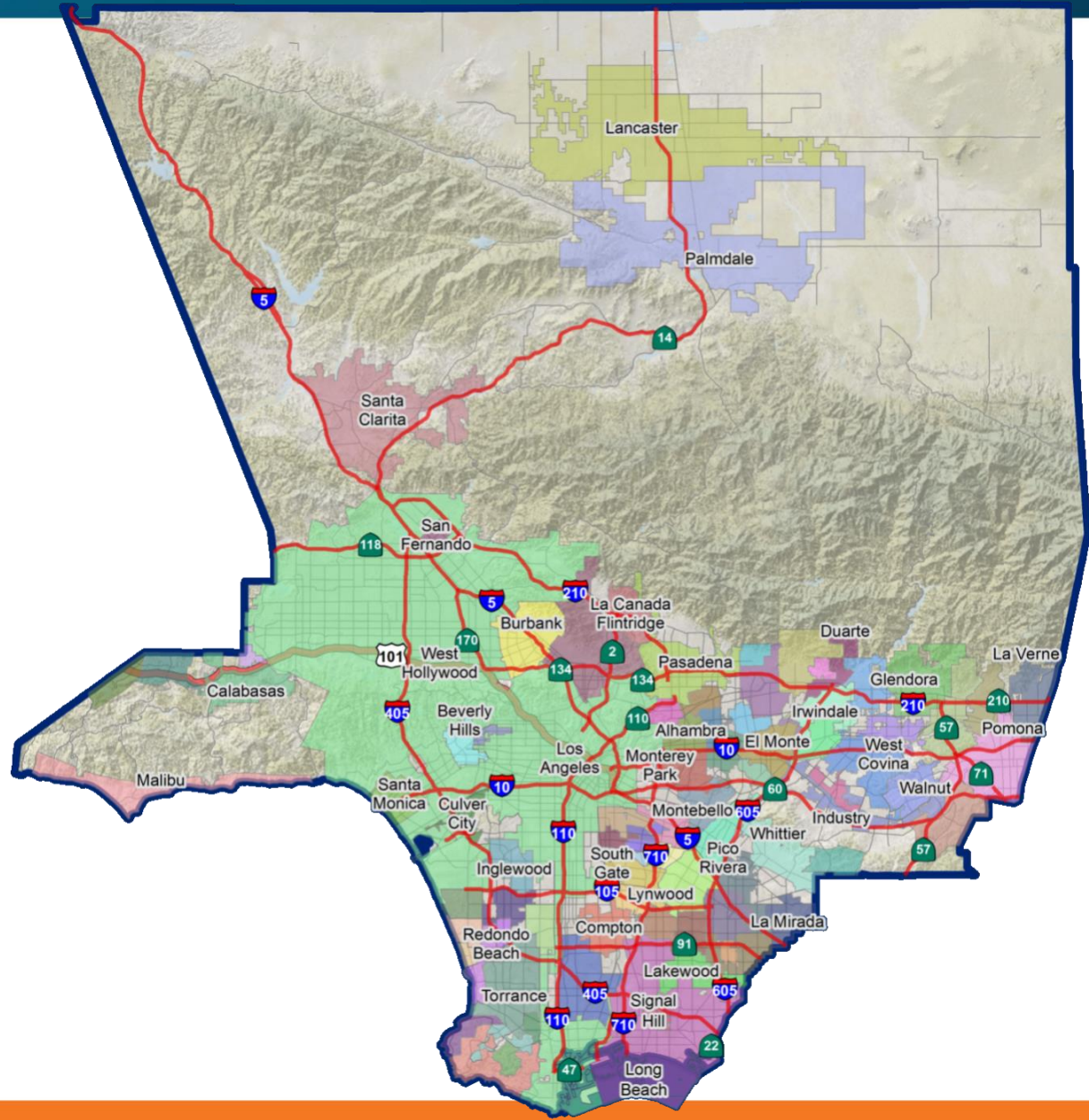
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
Public Health

Sonali Kulkarni, MD, MPH
Division of HIV and STD Programs



LAC Population

- 10.2 million residents
- Most populous county in the United States
- Greater population than 42 individual states
- One of the most racially/ethnically diverse counties in the United States
- 225 different languages are spoken
- 49.4% are male





Polling Question #1

- What is the estimated number of people in LAC who could benefit from PrEP?
 - 1) 50,000
 - 2) 75,000
 - 3) 100,000

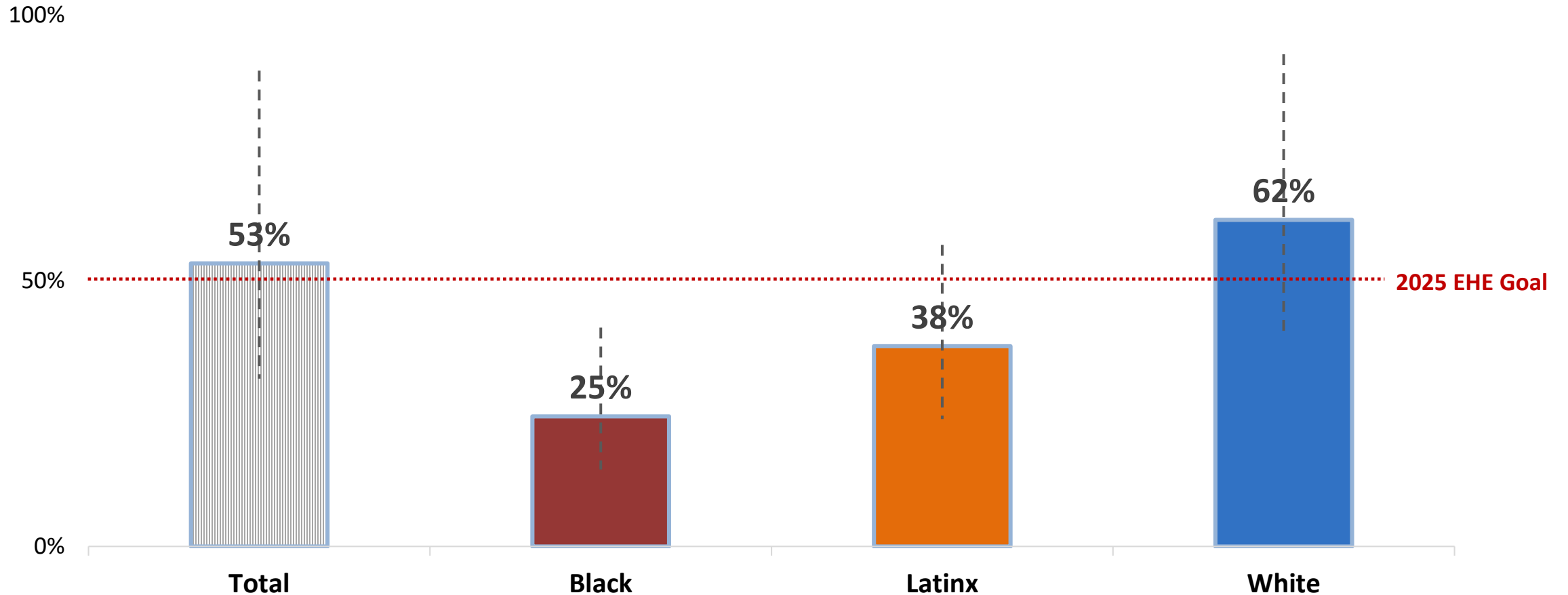
Who does that number include?



It is estimated that **75,960** people in LA County would benefit from PrEP

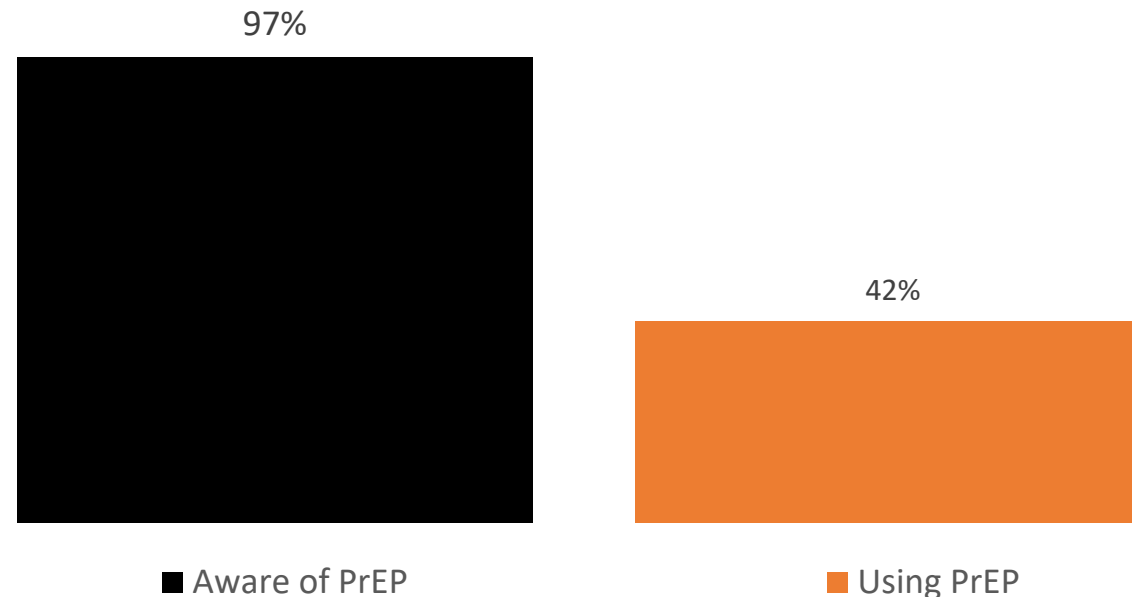


Estimated Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Use by Race/Ethnicity, LAC 2021

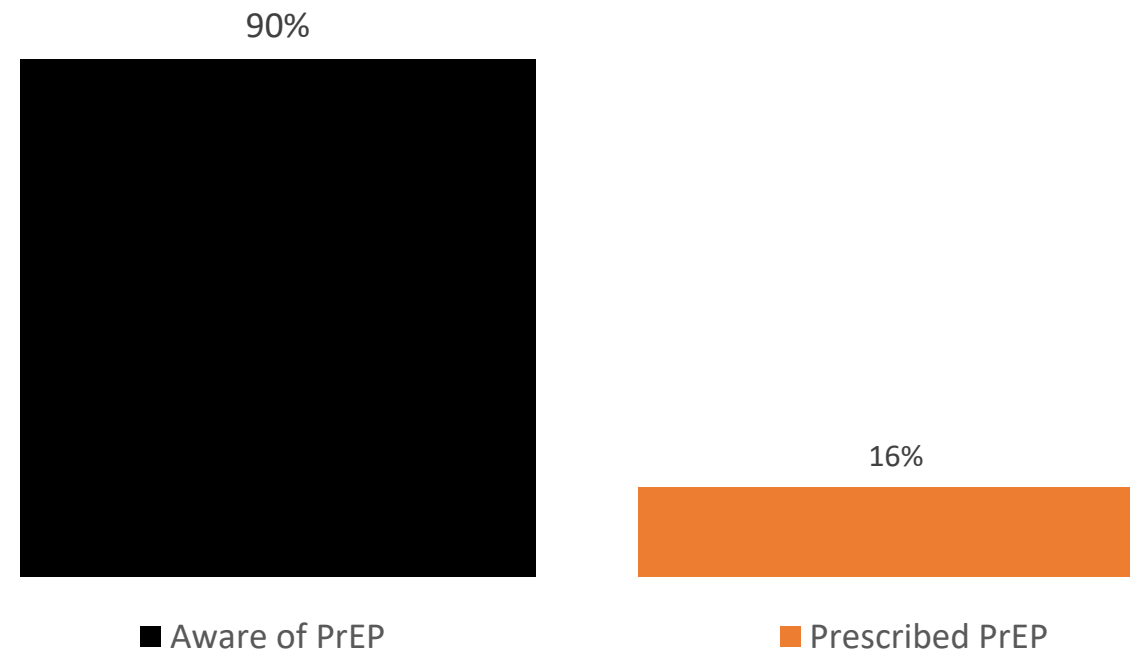


Note: PrEP coverage, reported as a percentage, was calculated as the estimated number of persons prescribed PrEP (numerator) divided by the estimated number of persons with an indication for PrEP (denominator). Different data sources were used to estimate values for the numerators (Division of HIV and STD Programs biomedical and sexual health service data [Los Angeles County (LAC) Department of Public Health Division of HIV and STD Programs (DHSP) 2021]; DHSP Online Dating Apps User Survey 2021 ; LAC National HIV Behavioral Surveillance survey data , DHSP, 2016-19]; and the denominators (PrEP Populations Estimation Tool [CDC: shinyapps.io]; 2018 LAC Health Survey); LAC STD Surveillance, 2021, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey [NHANES] 2021; LAC Census Data 2021)

- Most people who are indicated for PrEP are aware of it.
 - A recent survey of select LA County dating app users found 97% of participants were aware of PrEP.
 - However, only 42% of those same survey participants were using PrEP.



- Many healthcare providers are also aware of PrEP
 - 2020 national survey of primary care providers estimated that 90% were aware of PrEP
 - Among those same providers, 15.6% had ever prescribed PrEP, though 34% reported they would be likely to prescribe it in the next 12 months



Who can prescribe PrEP and PEP to patients?



- Any licensed prescriber can prescribe PrEP or PEP
 - Medical Doctor (MD)
 - Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO)
 - Physician Assistance (PA)
 - Nurse Practitioner (NP)

Under California's law, SB 159 pharmacists are allowed to dispense PrEP without a prescription. A pharmacist can dispense 30 to 60 days of PrEP after testing and counseling. A pharmacist can also dispense a full 30-day course of PEP.

What keeps people from using PrEP?

- Lack of awareness of PrEP
- Stigma- PrEP, gender identity, sexual behaviors and sexuality in general
- Medical mistrust
- Fears or discomfort in talking to their doctor about it
- Underestimation of one's HIV risk
- Difficulty accessing PrEP
 - Their provider will not prescribe
 - Lack of insurance or cost concerns
- Significant negative social determinants of health

Social Determinants of Health

- More than 69,000 persons are homeless on any given night; a 31% increase since 2018
- Average daily inmate population is more than 14,500
- Fentanyl overdose deaths increased 1,280% from 2016 to 2021
- Methamphetamines accounted for 52% of all drug overdoses in 2020
- Opioid related deaths increased almost 11% between 2020 and 2021





Polling Question #2

- Approximately what percentage of LA County residents are eligible for Medi-cal ?
 - 1) 20%
 - 2) 30%
 - 3) 50%



LAC Population Health Insurance Status (2019)

- Medi-Cal Expansion
 - 2014: Expansion to broader population of low income adults (non-parent)
 - Further expansion **regardless of immigration status**:
 - 2020: Expanded coverage to children and young adults (up to 25 years)
 - 2022: Expanded coverage to adults 50 years and over
 - *2024: Planned expansion to adults 26 to 49 years*
- 2019, 33% Medi-Cal coverage
- 2023, 45% Medi-Cal eligible



PrEP Coverage



Richard Salazar, MPH(c)
Division of HIV and STD Programs

PrEP services covered with no cost-sharing



- June 2019: United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) released a recommendation with a grade “A” rating that clinicians offer PrEP to persons who are at high-risk HIV acquisition.
- Under ACA, preventive services given a grade A are required to be covered without cost-sharing in commercial, employer, and public health plans.
 - Medical visits
 - Laboratory visits
 - Prescriptions
- USPSTF currently updating recommendations to include any formulation that is FDA approved for PrEP.

HEALTH CARE

Texas judge strikes down free HIV drugs, cancer screenings under Obamacare

The nationwide ruling holds that the health panel that decided what services insurers must cover is unconstitutional.



How can people access PrEP?



- For clients with health insurance:
 - PrEP and PEP are covered by private insurance (commercial, employer based) and public insurance (Medi-cal, Medicare)
 - Additional financial support from State PrEP-AP program and drug manufacturer copayment assistance programs
 - **LAI:** Coverage of LAI medication can be under the insurer's medical or pharmacy benefit
 - Medi-cal coverage straightforward

No PrEP Coverage? No Problem!



FREE or low-cost Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) to prevent getting HIV is available to all residents of LA County!

The following information provides an overview of how to access PrEP.

Did you know?
Taken as prescribed, PrEP can reduce the chance of getting HIV by up to 99%.

If You Have Insurance



Medi-Cal

- PrEP and all related medical services are 100% covered as preventive services.
- Services should be billed directly to Medi-Cal, not the patient's managed care plan.
- **Who is eligible?**
 - LA County residents whose income is at or below 138% Federal Poverty Level (FPL).
 - Undocumented individuals between the ages of 19-25 years qualify for full-scope Medi-Cal (SB 75).



Medicare

- PrEP is covered by Medicare with very low co-pays.
- Financial assistance through the California State PrEP Assistance Program (PrEP-AP) is available should individuals reach the coverage gap limit of \$4,430, commonly referred to as the "donut hole."
- **Who is eligible?**
 - Individuals 65 years old and older.
 - Individuals under 65, have a disability, and have received Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) for 24 months.



Private Insurance Purchased on The Health Exchange (Covered California)

- Covers the costs of medication and related medical services at no cost to the patient.
- Prior authorization may be required but must be expedited so patients can access it quickly.
- To get started with applying for Covered CA: www.coveredca.com
 - Open enrollment is usually in the Fall.
 - Enroll for Covered CA at any time if you meet one of the following qualifying life events: www.coveredca.com/support/before-you-buy/qualifying-life-events/
- **Who is eligible?**
 - People who are legal U.S. residents, permanent or temporary.
 - People who have amnesty visas (due to fleeing persecution).
 - People who have a worker or student VISA.
 - Income must be between the range of 138% - 400% FPL.
 - Consultation with a certified Covered CA Certified Insurance Agent is encouraged.



Private Insurance Through Work or Employment

- Most major insurance providers cover the costs of medication and related medical services at no cost to patients. Prior authorization is not needed.
- **Who is eligible?**
 - Individuals who are insured through their employer.

How can people access PrEP?



- **For clients who do not currently have health insurance:**
 - May be eligible for health insurance
 - Medi-Cal has robust coverage
 - Covered California plans may cover costs of PrEP (Bronze Plan poorest coverage)
 - PrEP-AP will pay for:
 - Approved PrEP-related medical services, such as doctor visits or labs
 - Temporary access period of 30 days – time to get appropriate documentation
 - Coverage for oral medication if the patient is under parent, or spouse, insurance plan and wants to access services confidentially.
 - Other medications on the PrEP-AP formulary used to treat STDs
 - Medications obtained through drug manufacturer's patient assistance programs (Gilead/Ready-Set-PrEP for name brand oral, ViiV Connect for LAI)

How can people access PrEP?



- DHSP funded **PrEP Centers of Excellence (COE)** which provide PrEP/PEP services at low to no cost for clients who meet financial eligibility.
 - 15 agencies with multiple locations
 - Income eligibility: Client's income must be at or below \$72,900/year
- **PrEP COEs** offer multiple services:
 - Navigation- applying for insurance or enrollment into patient assistance programs
 - Counseling/tips to help clients remember when to take their medications
 - Referrals to other services to keep clients healthy
 - Primary medical care

Minors (younger than 18) who want to access PrEP/PEP and are concerned about confidentiality can be referred to CHLA or the Alexis Clinic at LAC+USC

PrEP Centers of Excellence



- **AltaMed Health Services***
- **AIDS Project Los Angeles***
- **Charles Drew University***
- Children's Hospital Los Angeles
- **JWCH Institute***
- **City of Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services***
- **LA LGBT Center***
- LAC+USC
- **Men's Health Foundation***
- **Northeast Valley Health Corporation***
- **St. John's Community Health***
- **St. Mary's Medical Center (Dignity CARE)***
- **Tarzana Treatment Center***
- ViaCare Community Health Center
- **Watts Health Care***

*Clinics offering LAI (as of April 2023)

Locations and PrEP Navigator contact information can be found at <http://getprepla.com/centers-of-excellence/>

LA County Clinics serve as PrEP access points



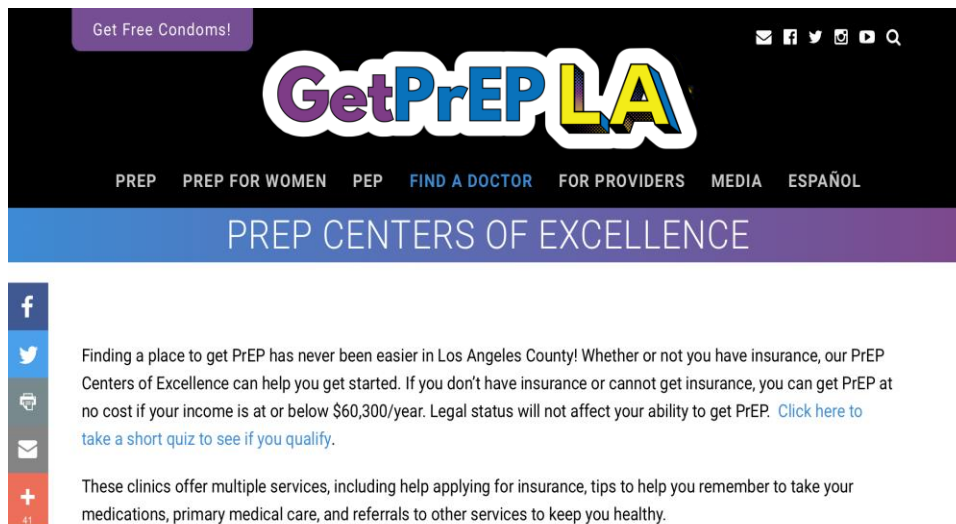
Clinic	Contact
Antelope Valley Health Center 335-B East Avenue K6 Lancaster, CA 93535	661-471-4861
North Hollywood Public Health Center 5300 Tujunga Ave. North Hollywood, CA 91602	818-766-3982
Pomona Health Center 750 S. Park Avenue Pomona, CA 91766	909-868-0235
Central Public Health Center 241 N Figueroa Street Los Angeles, CA 90012	213-288-8204
Hollywood-Wilshire Health Center 5205 Melrose Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90038	323-769-7800
Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Public Health 11833 Wilmington Ave., Los Angeles, CA 9059	323-568-8100
Ruth Temple Public Health Center 3834 S. Western Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90062	323-730-3507
Whittier Health Center 7643 Painter Ave. Whittier, CA 90602	562-464-5350
Curtis Tucker Health Center 123 W. Manchester Blvd. Inglewood, CA 90301	310-419-5325

**DPH to begin offering
TelePrEP for oral PrEP
in fall 2023**

Helping People Access PrEP



GetPrEPLA.com



Los Angeles County's PrEP Resource Website:

- Information about PrEP and PEP
- Resources for providers
- English/Spanish
- LA County contacts
- Insurance information

Los Angeles County PrEP
Information line: 1-844-YEA-PREP
Website: <http://getprepla.com/>

Help paying for PrEP



- Covered California: www.coveredca.com/apply/
- PrEP-AP (PrEP Assistance Program):
www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DOA/Pages/OA_adap_enroll_prepAP.aspx
- Ending the HIV Epidemic: Ready, Set, PrEP: www.getyourprep.com
- Gilead Patient Assistance Programs:
www.gileadadvancingaccess.com
- Patient Advocate Foundation: www.copays.org



Thank you!

- Sonali Kulkarni, Medical Director- DHSP
- skulkarni@ph.lacounty.gov
- Richard Salazar, PrEP/Prevent Lead-DHSP
- rsalazar@ph.lacounty.gov

END THE EPIDEMICS

Californians Mobilizing to End HIV,
STIs, Viral Hepatitis & Overdose

Mobilizing for Access to LAI PrEP: 2023 State PrEP Legislation

May 2, 2023

Ryan Clary
ETE Consultant

SB 427: Health Care Coverage of ARVs, Products, Devices for HIV Prevention

- Authored by Senator Anthony Portantino (Burbank/Pasadena)
- Sponsored by Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara
- Supported by Equality California
- Prohibits health insurers from imposing cost-sharing for ARVs, devices or products approved by FDA or recommended by CDC for the prevention of HIV
 - Projected to expand no-cost PrEP to one million Californians
- Referred to Senate Appropriations Committee
 - Hearing on May 8th

**END THE
EPIDEMICS**

Californians Mobilizing to End HIV,
STIs, Viral Hepatitis & Overdose

Advocacy Strategies: Research

- Fully understand the bill/clarify language
- Impact on LAI PrEP
- Advocacy landscape
- Challenges/barriers
- Legislative path
 - Senate Committees
 - Assembly Committees
- Committee Chair and members
- Deadlines



Californians Mobilizing to End HIV,
STIs, Viral Hepatitis & Overdose

Advocacy Strategies: Plan

- Develop advocacy timeline based on deadlines
- Identify/organize coalition
- Recruit leaders/point people
- Establish teams
 - Research
 - Legislative meetings
 - Grassroots organizing
 - Social media, etc.
- Strategies: Committees, Senate and Assembly floor
- Governor strategy

**END THE
EPIDEMICS**

Californians Mobilizing to End HIV,
STIs, Viral Hepatitis & Overdose

Advocacy Strategies: Act

- Work with Senator's office
- Organization letters/community sign-letters
 - Submit through legislative portal no later than 1 week before committee consideration
- Meetings with key legislators/staff
 - Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs
 - Committee Members
 - Potential supporters/champions (LGBTQ Caucus)
- Action alerts/mobilize community
- Op-eds/letters to editor/social media
- Letters to Governor



Californians Mobilizing to End HIV,
STIs, Viral Hepatitis & Overdose

SB 339: Health Care Coverage of ARVs, Products, Devices for HIV Prevention

- Authored by Senator Scott Wiener (San Francisco)
- Expands pharmacists' ability to furnish PrEP and PEP
 - Theoretically includes LAI PrEP
- Sponsored by Equality California, San Francisco AIDS Foundation, California Pharmacists Association
- Priority bill for End The Epidemics
- Contact for fact sheet/support letter template:
ryan@eteca.org

**END THE
EPIDEMICS**

Californians Mobilizing to End HIV,
STIs, Viral Hepatitis & Overdose

Advocacy: Access for uninsured/underinsured/public programs

- Use legislative opportunity to highlight access needs for those without private insurance.
- Form partnerships with other HIV and health care advocates.
- Identify legislators who show interest in LAI access
- Will it require increased state funding?
 - FY 2024-25 budget strategy

**END THE
EPIDEMICS**

Californians Mobilizing to End HIV,
STIs, Viral Hepatitis & Overdose

End The Epidemics

- Check out our website: www.eteca.org.
- Join us: <http://www.eteca.org/get-involved/>
- Follow us on Twitter: @endepidemicsca.org;
#EndTheEpidemicsCA
- Questions
 - clarystrategies@gmail.com
 - (323) 810-6184

**END THE
EPIDEMICS**

Californians Mobilizing to End HIV,
STIs, Viral Hepatitis & Overdose

Questions and Answers

- ▶ If you would like to ask a question, you can enter your question in the Q/A box.
- ▶ If we run out of time, we will try to get a response to all the remaining questions after the workshop.



Evaluation Time!!

- ▶ We entered links to complete an **anonymous evaluation** of today's community workshop in the chat, provided in both English and Spanish.
- ▶ Once you submit your evaluation, you will be redirected to another form to enter our raffle for an opportunity to win one of three \$50 electronic Visa gift cards.
- ▶ The raffle winners will each receive an email with a link to their gift card on Friday, May 5, 2023.
- ▶ **Please stay on the line with us as you complete your evaluation** – we'll end the session with a few closing remarks at 11:28 AM.

Closing Remarks

- ▶ Thank you for attending this LAI PrEP community workshop.
- ▶ We will be offering several other workshops over the next 18 months.
- ▶ Tentative topics for future workshops include:
 - ▶ Considerations for clinical implementation of LAI PrEP.
 - ▶ Conversations with leaders of community organizations serving Latino/a and Black MSM and transgender women about the use of LAI PrEP.
 - ▶ Your suggestions!

Thank you!

For more information on the ***Equitable Injectable PrEP in LAC Initiative***, or to hear recordings of our prior workshops, please visit:

<https://chipts.ucla.edu/upcoming-events/the-equitable-injectable-prep-in-la-county-initiative/>

To be included in our listserv for future community workshops, please contact Elena Rosenberg-Carlson:

erosenberg-carlson@mednet.ucla.edu