The Global Challenge

In 2018, there were an estimated 37.9 million people living with HIV (PLHIV) worldwide. Approximately 1.7 million of these were new HIV infections and almost two-thirds occurred in Africa. Scaling up access to oral pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV prevention is a key prevention strategy in the U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) 2020 Country Operational Plan (COP20) guidance for a number of populations, including adolescent girls and young women (AGYW), pregnant and breastfeeding women, serodiscordant couples, men who have sex with men (MSM), people who inject drugs, people in prisons, female sex workers (FSWs), and transgender people. Although significant progress has been made to slow the rate of HIV infection, prevention remains a critical priority. In response, PEPFAR and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) have provided generous funding for RISE, a 5-year global project (2019–2024), led by Jhpiego, that supports countries to achieve and maintain epidemic control by providing strategic technical assistance and direct service delivery to improve HIV prevention, case finding, treatment, and viral load suppression. RISE offers support to countries working to scale up access to oral PrEP for targeted populations through technical assistance and service delivery, including national-level policy and guideline updates, capacity building for providers, demand generation, and integrating PrEP into national and subnational health information systems.

Our team delivers a core package of high-quality HIV prevention services tailored to vulnerability, client, and community. In the use of biomedical tools to prevent transmission of HIV, our expertise includes oral PrEP and voluntary medical male circumcision.

The RISE consortium (Jhpiego, ICAP, Management Sciences for Health, Anova Health Institute, BAO Systems, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and Mann Global Health) brings unrivaled expertise in taking evidence-based programming to scale and transitioning to local implementing partners for sustainable, self-reliant, and resilient health systems. We have a history of meeting ambitious targets through provision of high-quality, cost-efficient services matched with innovative and human-centered demand-creation approaches.
Our Technical Focus in Oral PrEP for HIV Prevention

RISE provides technical assistance and service delivery support to address technical gaps and support national scale-up of oral PrEP in PEPFAR-supported countries through multiple approaches, including:

- Support to governments and other stakeholders to develop PrEP policies, guidelines, and implementation strategies;
- Service delivery models that maximize accessibility, safety, and acceptability;
- Innovative and human-centered approaches to engage the community and generate demand;
- Mentorship and training on PrEP provision;
- Strengthening of monitoring systems and support to countries to use PrEP performance data to drive programmatic decisions and optimize PrEP uptake and continuation;
- Support to countries in oral PrEP scale-up through the translation and utilization of evidence-informed planning, programming, and strategic information tools;
- Assistance to countries in PrEP demand creation through the development of a low-cost human-centered design-infused approach for devising demand-creation strategies and tools; and
- Support to countries in the integration of sexual reproductive health and PrEP services through the development of evidence-informed integration strategies and tools.

RISE lead Jhpiego has the program implementation, community engagement, and health systems strengthening expertise to ensure that its efforts to introduce and scale up oral PrEP programs are successful, efficient, and cost-effective.

Examples of RISE Consortium Experience in Oral PrEP

At the global level, Jhpiego has played a leading role in global technical leadership for PrEP research, policy, and capacity building materials. Jhpiego worked closely with the World Health Organization (WHO) to develop digital tools to support clinicians and other health care workers, including the Oral PrEP Learning Resource Package and the WHO PrEP Implementation Tool App for Health Workers. The app provides key information and practical advice about the use of oral PrEP, with modules for clinicians, counselors, pharmacists, HIV testing providers, and PrEP users. It also features a clinical calculator to estimate creatinine clearance. The mobile app, currently available in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, is available through the Apple and Google Play Stores.

Jhpiego also brings extensive implementation experience working to roll out PrEP for HIV prevention in multiple countries. As lead of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation-funded Jilinde project, Jhpiego is spearheading the first global project aimed at moving oral PrEP research into full-scale implementation. Through this project, introduced in Kenya in 2016:

- Jhpiego worked with local stakeholders to demonstrate and document an effective model to scale up the administration of oral PrEP in limited-resource settings. Within the first 21 months after initiation, more than 18,000 clients were receiving oral PrEP.
- Jhpiego developed a nationwide oral PrEP delivery system that employs drop-in centers, public health facilities, and private providers to reach high-risk populations, including FSWs, MSM, and AGYW.
- Jhpiego supported national-level policy changes to integrate oral PrEP into Kenya’s HIV testing and counseling and family planning programs, and demand-creation efforts to reach priority populations with information, counseling, and services on oral PrEP.
These efforts resulted in rapid uptake of oral PrEP in Kenya, and similar efforts are now underway in Lesotho and Nigeria.

In addition, RISE consortium partners are well-positioned to support countries to make oral PrEP available among key and priority populations in COP20. ICAP, for example, has developed a PrEP implementation training package for clinicians, while Anova Health Institute has advocated with governments to expand provision of PrEP to key populations through public health facilities.

**RISE Project Principles**

- Break the cycle of HIV transmission and reach those at highest risk for HIV.
- Scale up proven and innovative approaches, using human-centered design thinking to inform the development and implementation of locally driven, adaptive solutions.
- Implement interventions that address structural drivers.
- Strengthen local partners and build networks for resilient systems.
- Impart a culture of quality, data use, and accountability.
- Rapidly mobilize to respond to immediate country needs and establish strong working platforms to achieve the bold vision of epidemic control by 2020.
- Work with local partners to tailor impactful, innovative, evidence-based services to targeted populations, particularly at-risk adult men and women, including key populations.

**Tools & Resources**

- [WHO Oral PrEP Implementation Tool](#) (downloadable app)
- [HIV Prevention Toolkit A Gender-Responsive Approach](#)

**RISE Technical Areas**

To learn more about our work, visit our website at [https://www.jhpiego.org/rise](https://www.jhpiego.org/rise), and see our briefs on:

- [RISE Introductory Brief & Project Overview](#)
- Health Systems Strengthening/Policy
- HIV Prevention: Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision
- HIV Testing Services and Linkage
- Antiretroviral Therapy Optimization
- Strategic Information
- Key Populations
- TB/HIV Integration
- Laboratory Services

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