

Operational diversity among clinics in the PRIMP study on Scaling up PrEP Implementation for gbMSM in British Columbia and Ontario



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Background

- PRIMP is an ongoing CIHR-funded study of PrEP implementation for gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (gbMSM) at high HIV risk
- As part of our process evaluation, we surveyed participating sites regarding processes for assessing eligibility for, referring to and/or delivering PrEP

Methods

- Participating sites that make PrEP referrals (ie. recommend PrEP to gbMSM meeting guideline-recommended eligibility criteria), provide PrEP services, or both, completed surveys regarding human resources, client volumes, and PrEP referral criteria for the period 06/2019-11/2019
- Responses were analyzed using descriptive statistics and the Wilcoxon rank-sum test

Results:

- Six BC and ten ON sites included sexual health (44%), PrEP specialty (19%), infectious disease (19%), primary care (6%) and public health (13%) clinics/units
- Among Ontario sites, 30% only did referrals, 50% only did delivery, and 20% did both; among BC sites, 17% only did referrals while 83% also delivered PrEP
- PrEP was delivered by physicians (42%), registered nurses or nurse practitioners (NP) (17%), or both (42%)
- The median (IQR) number of PrEP client visits per year was 875 (600,1079); volumes did not differ between physician-only and physician/nurse-run sites ($p=0.60$)
- Site leaders reported infectious diseases (44%), family/community medicine (31%), nursing with STI certification (6%), nurse practitioner (6%), or other (13%) training
- The most common eligibility assessors were nursing (60%), patient self-assessment (20%), counsellor (10%), or physician (10%)
- Criteria for determining PrEP eligibility varied by site (Table 1; see next slide)

Table 1: Criteria for determining PrEP eligibility at PRIMP sites in British Columbia and Ontario

Criterion	N (%) sites in BC	N (%) sites in ON
Reported or diagnosed with syphilis within past 12 months	5 (100)	5 (100)
Reported or diagnosed with rectal gonorrhoea or chlamydia within past 12 months	5 (100)	5 (100)
Multiple uses of post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)	5 (100)	4 (80)
HIV positive partner with unsuppressed viral load	5 (100)	4 (80)
High Incidence Risk Index for Men who have sex with Men (HIRI-MSM) score \geq 25	5 (100)	5 (100)
HIRI-MSM score \geq 10	5 (100)	3 (60)
First episode of PEP use	1 (20)	3 (60)
Reported or diagnosed with pharyngeal gonorrhoea or chlamydia within past 12 months	0 (0)	2 (40)
Reported or diagnosed with urethral gonorrhoea or chlamydia within past 12 months	0 (0)	2 (40)

Limitations

- Despite attempts to confirm data, some survey responses were incomplete

Conclusions

- There is considerable diversity in PrEP delivery models across BC and ON
- There may be greater diversity in delivery models in ON as compared to BC
- Efforts to standardize practices may be warranted

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- I have no conflicts of interest