

PrEPping IT UP:

Asia's Urgent PrEP Agenda

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PrEPARING ASIA

A new direction for HIV prevention among MSM in Asia

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HIV and MSM In Asia

- HIV+ MSM ranges from **6%** (in Myanmar, Vietnam, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand) to **14%** (in Mongolia)
- Ho Chi Minh, Jakarta, and Kuala Lumpur – **15%** of MSM HIV+
- Bangkok – almost **25%** of MSM HIV+
- Consistent condom use remains low with less than half of MSM in most major Asian cities using condoms inconsistently – too low to have an impact on reducing HIV transmission among MSM.
- Only about half of MSM in Asia-Pacific get tested for HIV
- PrEP is urgently needed in Asia, especially if Asia is to meet the UNAIDS fast-track targets.



Increasing HIV Testing: TestXXX

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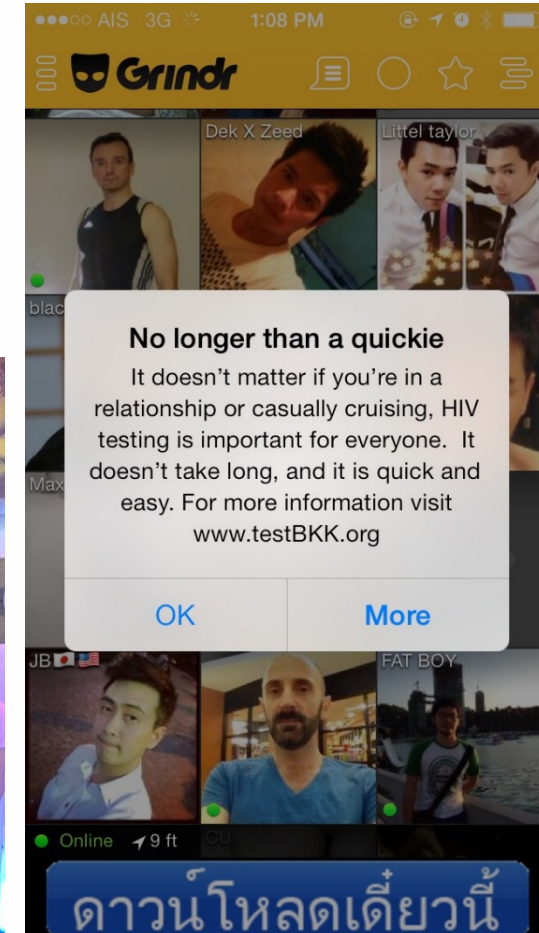
- Supported by the Elton John AIDS Foundation, LINKAGES
 - TestBKK, Bangkok
 - TestSGN, Ho Chi Minh City
 - TestMNL, Manila
 - TestJKT, Jakarta
 - Other cities
- Targets young MSM in urban centres, using social media
- Consistent branding and messages across cities

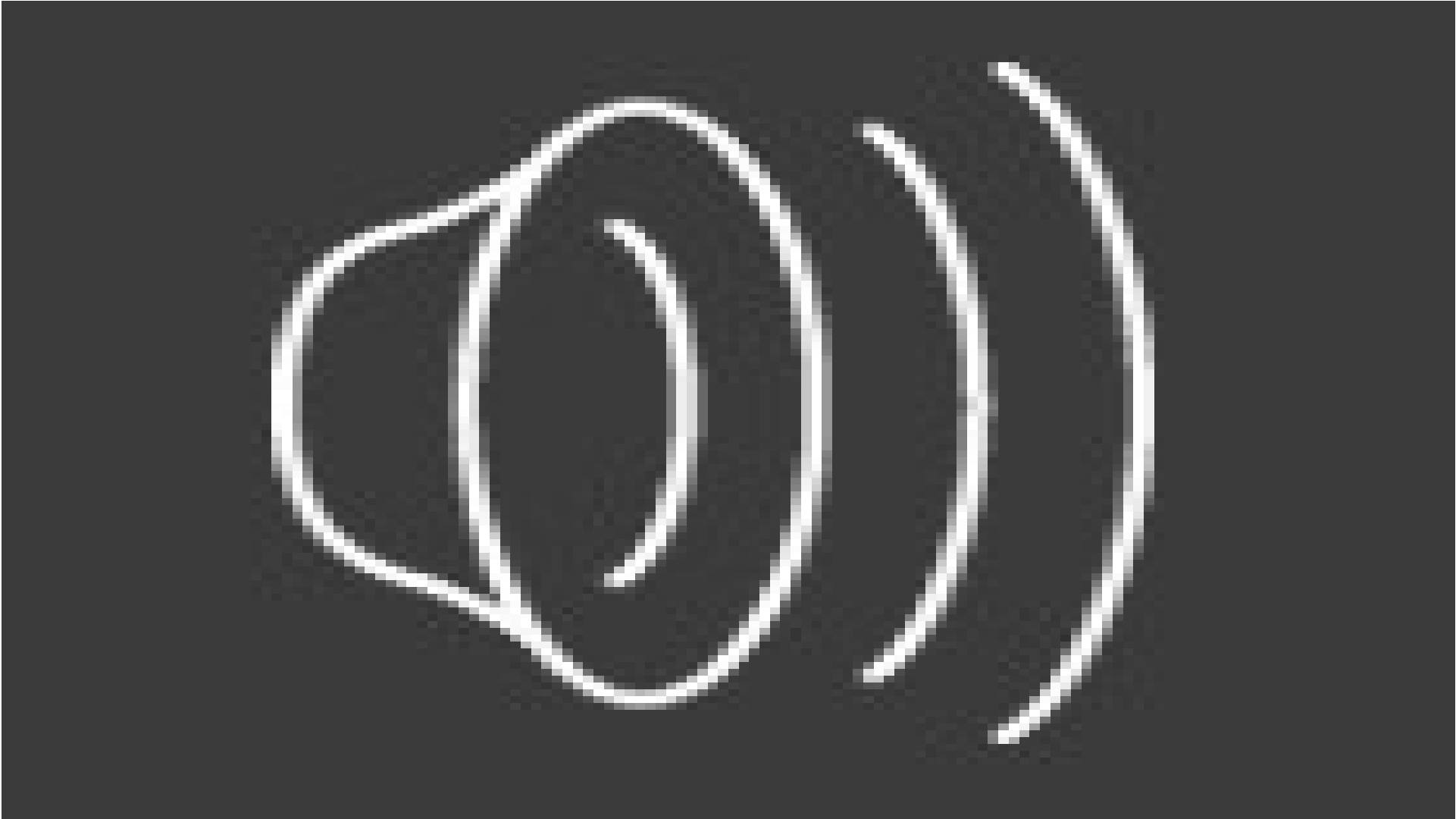


Increasing HIV Testing: TestXXX

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- Community-led, community-owned
- Easy to understand messages
- Innovative





Regional Consultation on PrEP For MSM

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2015 – APCOM hosted PrEP summit for Asia in Bangkok

PrEParing Asia is attended by HIV and community workers, national HIV/AIDS programme managers, development partners and donors across the region to discuss how to increase the pace of PrEP's roll out in Asia.

Based on consultation outcomes, APCOM produces road map to help partner organisations in Asia navigate the issues and challenges for increasing access to PrEP for MSM across the region.





PrEP Country Consultations

- *PrEParing Asia* used as model for country consultations in Malaysia, Hong Kong, Singapore, Indonesia, Cambodia, Myanmar, Lao PDR, Philippines and Vietnam.
- Consultations assessed level of understanding and readiness that local MSM and TG communities have in relation to PrEP.
- Most countries report community knowledge about PrEP needs to be enhanced, so accurate information is available and demand for PrEP can be generated.



PrEP Community Education

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- Several countries have initiated grass-roots education efforts through advertising, social media and community engagement events:
 - Share up-to-date research
 - Provide information about the availability of PrEP
 - Peer support to help them overcome barriers to PrEP access



PrEP Pilot Projects

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- PrEP is supplied for a set period of time to a monitored group of participants at high risk of HIV transmission.
 - Australia: **8300** participants
 - Vietnam: **200** participants
 - The Philippines: **100** participants
 - Several other countries report significant progress towards establishing pilot programs
- Results from trials crucial in forming evidence base to scale up the provision of PrEP throughout Asia.



Getting PrEP into National HIV Strategies

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- Key part of Asia's prep for PrEP.
- Without relevant policy frameworks in place, national insurance agencies and pharmaceutical regulatory bodies won't approve PrEP as prevention, severely limiting its availability and potential impact.
- Action to address these kind of policy and regulatory issues has already commenced in several countries, although.
- Most cite the outcomes of local pilot projects as a precursor to any significant progress in this area.



Creating PrEP Champions

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- Misconceptions about and ideological concerns against PrEP among policymakers in the region is a big hurdle.
- Need to provide up-to-date information about the efficacy, safety and cost-effectiveness of PrEP to educate those who inform policy and make decisions about health spending.

Funding PrEP Scale Ups In Asia

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- Cost of scaling up access to PrEP is one of the biggest barriers for all countries in the region.
- Innovative and multifaceted funding models will need to be developed with the community as part of the health system.
- However, there are some countries with Global Fund and PEPFAR funding where the inclusion of PrEP can already happen, providing data for PrEP effectiveness in other local contexts, which will hopefully encourage investment in PrEP scale ups across the region.



Increasing Awareness among Health Providers

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- Need to create demand from health workers through education
- APCOM survey of community connected GPs across South and South East Asia shows:
 - Almost all know about and support PrEP as an HIV prevention option for MSM, particularly high risk MSM
 - But under half had not prescribed PrEP due to issues around knowledge, access and affordability
- Need to develop and provide training programs and clinical guidelines for all relevant health workers



Current PrEP Availability In Asia

- PrEP programmes available in:
 - **Thailand** (limited access, affordability issues)
- Trials/discussions for PrEP implementation programmes in:
 - **Australia** (trials in several states)
 - **Vietnam** (trial underway)
 - **The Philippines, Malaysia** (trial underway)
 - **Indonesia** (Discussions happening currently)
 - **Laos** (Discussions happening currently)
- Informal procurement of PrEP in, mostly black-market drugs off the internet.

PrEP-30 program at Thai Red Cross Anonymous Clinic

PrEP-30: a self-paid service (30THB per day) to increase awareness and access to PrEP among at-risk populations at TRC Anonymous Clinic



Stop-Gap Access To PrEP

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- Some organisations are facilitating online ordering for clients who wish to purchase the drug from jurisdictions where it can be legally dispensed, such as Thailand and Malaysia.
- Partnerships with local HIV doctors who can supply prescriptions and provide the necessary medical support, such as kidney monitoring and HIV/STI tests, are important.
- PrEP also provided through Thai Red Cross Clinic, Silom Clinic and some private clinics in Thailand.

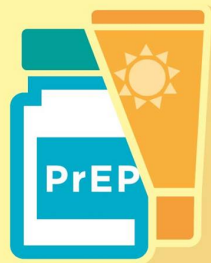


How APCOM is Helping

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- Helping facilitate country consultations.
- Providing a range education and advocacy resources including printed materials, videos, and discussions with current PrEP users,
- Advocating for Asia's PrEP agenda at international HIV-related forums:
 - African regional PrEP consultation
 - UNAIDS/WHO PrEP Agenda consultation
 - International AIDS Conference International AIDS Society Conference





PrEP is like
**protecting your body
against sunburn**

It's better to be ready before you get hot and sweaty :)

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Learn more about PrEP at apcom.org/PrEP



PrEP is up to
96% effective

in preventing HIV infection
when taken correctly and consistently.

source: PROUD study

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PrEP is
**recommended by
WHO & CDC**

for serodiscordant couples, men and transgender women
who have sex with men at high risk of HIV.

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PrEP is
**a programme,
not just a prescription.**

PrEP strategy connects individuals at risk of HIV
with health care providers for a regular HIV and
STI testing and other follow-up.

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PrEP is like
taking oral contraception.

Take it or leave it, the option is yours.

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Learn more about PrEP at apcom.org/PrEP



PrEP is like
**wearing a life vest while
traveling on a boat.**

You hope for the best, but plan for the unexpected.

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Jonas Bagas

PrEP user, Philippines

0:23 / 3:14

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Cabot Phillips

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Dr. Chris Beyrer

Director, Johns Hopkins Training Program in HIV Epidemiology and Prevention Science

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HIV

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PrEP protects you non-stop from HIV infection

3,013 views

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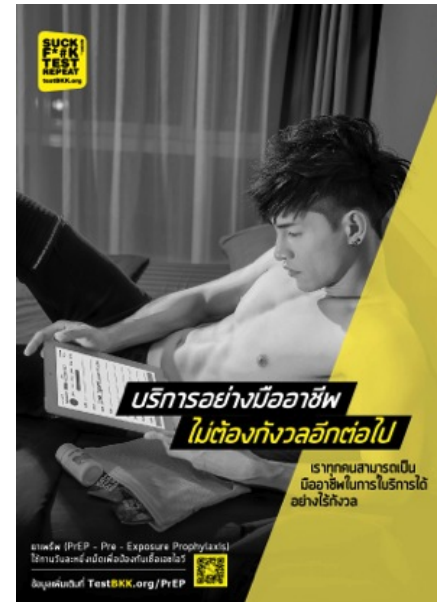
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**มีเซ็กส์
ได้อย่างไร้กังวล**

แนวทางการป้องกัน
การติดเชื้อเอชไอวี (HIV)
ที่คุณได้ด้วยตัวเอง
และมีประสิทธิภาพ

ยาเพร็พ (PrEP - Pre - Exposure Prophylaxis)
ใช้ตามวิธีและปริมาณเพื่อป้องกันเอชไอวี

ข้อมูลเพิ่มเติมที่ [TestBKK.org/PrEP](https://testBKK.org/PrEP)



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**บริการอย่างมืออาชีพ
ไม่ต้องกังวลอีกต่อไป**

เราทุกคนสามารถเป็น
มืออาชีพในการให้บริการได้
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**สนุกได้
อย่างไร้กังวล**

เพิ่มความมั่นใจ
ในการปกป้องตัวเอง
ให้ช่วงเวลาของคุณ
เพลิดเพลินกว่าที่เคย

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**ใกล้ชิดกันได้
ไม่ต้องกลัวอีกต่อไป**

เชื้อเอชไอวีไม่สามารถ
ทำลายความสัมพันธ์
การเป็นคู่ชีวิตได้อีกต่อไป

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Resources Produced by APCOM

PREPARING ASIA



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