



PrEP-ing for Black love: A Centering-Informed Group Care Model for Black Women's HIV Prevention

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LESSONS LEARNED

Lesson 1: Building Trust Before PrEP Education

Lesson 2: Importance of Building Community and Relationships

Lesson 3: Facilitating Linkage to Care

Lesson 4: Managing Group Dynamics

Lesson 5: Tailored Education and Information Needs

ADAPT-ITT MODEL

Applying ADAPT ITT to Guide Centering-Informed Care Adaption for Black Women open to PrEP

Phase	Objective	Methods
1. Assess	Assess Black women's HIV risk profile	Brief survey was conducted prior to individual interviews to assess Black women's HIV risk profile
2. Decision	Decide to adapt Centering informed group care	Community Advisory Board (CAB)
3. Administration	Evaluate knowledge, attitudes, barriers, and facilitators related to HIV prevention practices and perceptions of group care	Interview Black cisgender women (n=30) and care providers for Black cisgender women (n=5)
4. Production	Create initial draft of Group care model facilitator's guide: PrEP-ing for Black Love	Conduct CAB meeting to obtain feedback on initial facilitator guide
5. Topic Experts	Refine initial draft of PrEP-ing for Black Love.	Engage topical experts in PrEP and Group care, Health Equity, and Implementation Science
6. Integration	Finalize PrEP-ing for Black Love facilitator guide	Analyze data and revise facilitators guide
7. Training	Train staff to implement PrEP-ing for Black Love	Facilitator experts trained care providers and community health workers in group facilitation skills
8. Testing	Theater test the adapted Group care model: PrEP-ing for Black love	Feedback from Black cisgender women (n=5) and trained facilitators (n=4) to prep for RCT

Centering PrEP Care (C-PrEP+)



Health Assessment (30 min)

- **Brief one – on – one with provider:** Brief because common health promotion occurs in group setting to be given adequate attention rather than rushed through.
- **Self – Assessments:** urine dip, single item question about taking PrEP daily, self-weight assessment, Self B/P. Promotes ownership over health.
- **Enjoy snacks,** connect with group members and engage in a semi-structured activity prior to circling up.

Interactive Learning (45 min)

- **Group facilitation:** (1 provider & 1 trained peer).
- **Activity** which generates discussion about how to make health promotion work in everyday lives.
- **Topics:** Every session has a topic such as HIV prevention, substance use, side effects of PrEP.

Community Building

- **Patients:** Same cohort of patients.
- **Facilitators:** Same group facilitators.
- **Opener & Closer:** Each session has an opener and closer to build community.
- **Community Adapted:** Topics and activities reflect community's stated needs.
- **Reduces power imbalance** often seen in healthcare.
- **Meeting patients where they are** given constraints of the health system.

Same Patients. Same Facilitators. Same Structure for Each Session. Promoting Health While Building Community

PHASE 1&2: ASSESSMENT & DECISION 5

Why Adapt Centering?

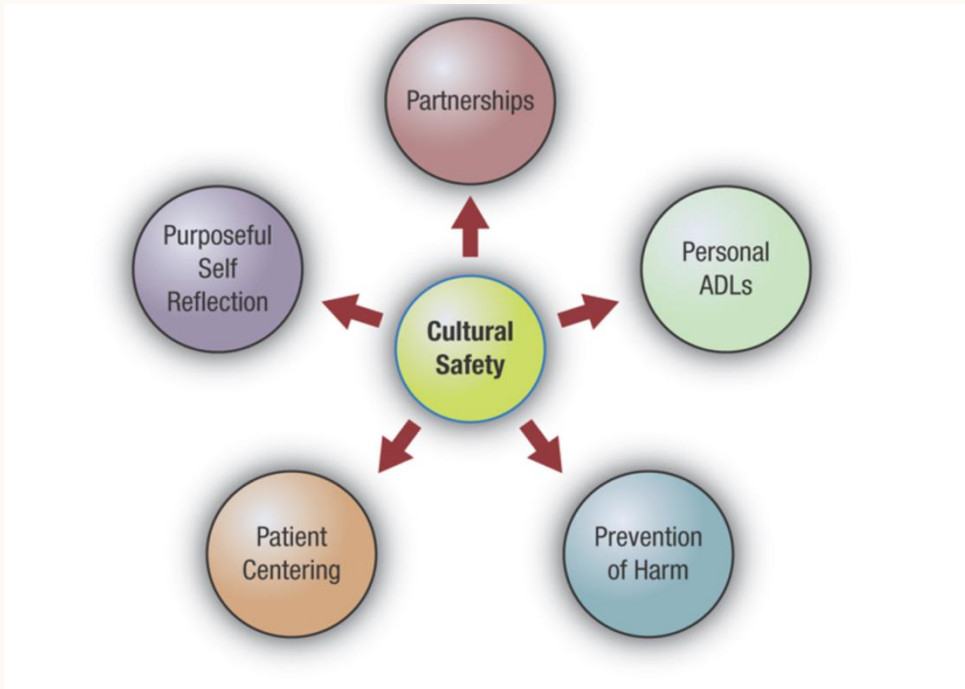
Group care model is evidence-based and has been successfully adapted for minority populations

Build a needed infrastructure of support to promote sexual health education and prevent HIV

Facilitate HIV testing, linkages to care, and PrEP uptake among Black women

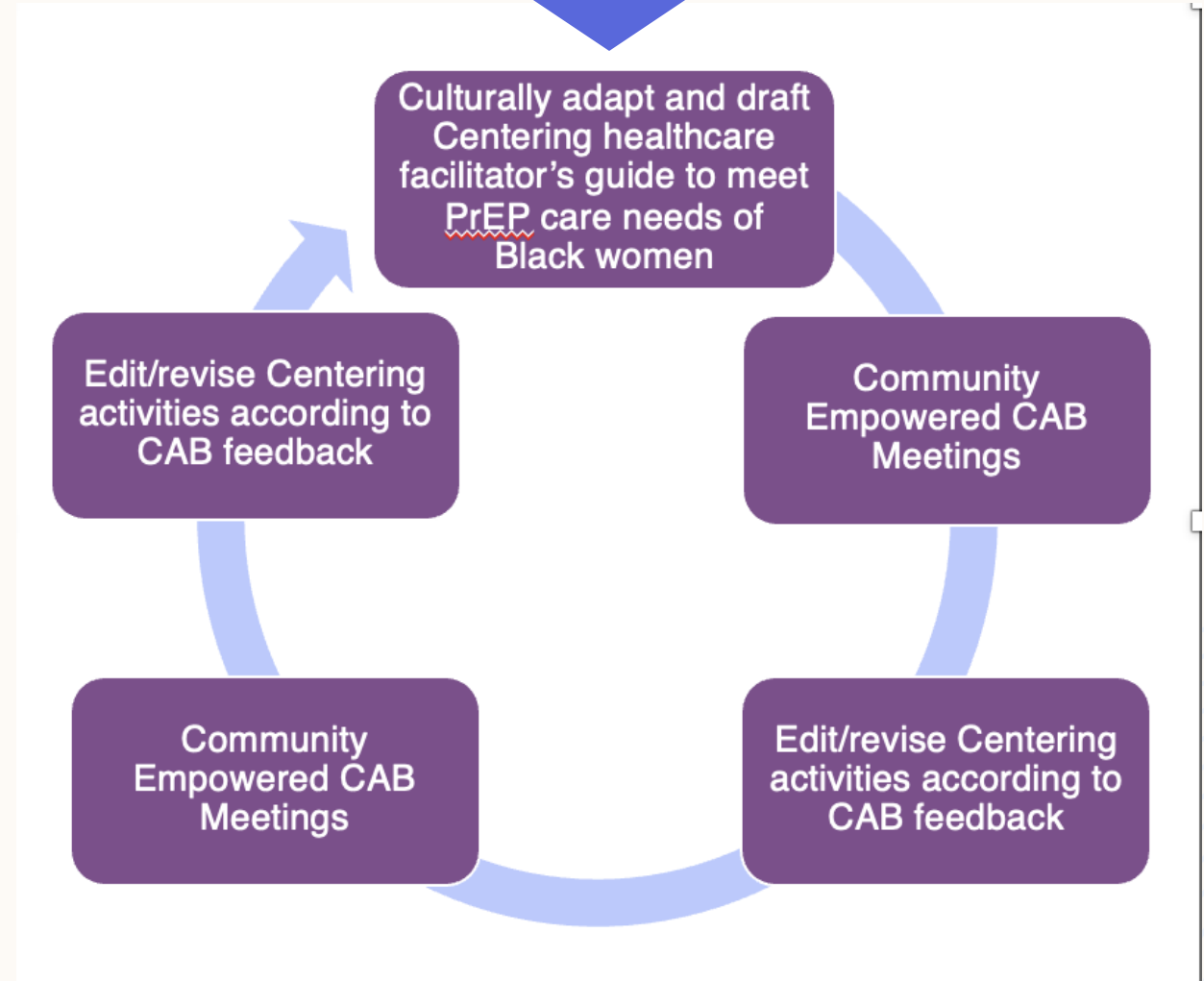
PHASE 3: ADMINISTRATION

Decide what and how the original EBI will be adapted



Community Empowered & Culturally Safe Adaptation

30 interviews with Black Cisgender Women,
5 interviews with care providers,
CAB formation and stakeholder meetings



INTERVIEW THEMES



Barriers to self-advocacy

Assumptions about who PrEP is for

Sexual socialization of Black women

Black love

Sexual health prevention

Interest in PrEP

Communication with partners and providers

Trust or lack of trust with partners

Trauma

Proximity to HIV

Centering model (interest and settings)

Creating community and safe space for Black women

WHAT IS BLACK LOVE?

- **Black love is empowering**

“I tried to go outside my race, but...I can't...it's just my heart can't chase after any other man but a Black man. I just love the way his skin looks. I love the way he look. Black love is everything to me. Striving with a Black man. The way my grandparents thrive together, the way my parents thrive together, the way I've just seen my family being built.” (44 years old & very likely to take PrEP)

- **Socialization of Black women**

“When you're a Black woman... Life can beat you down. Certain situations, environments can beat you down. So, when you're coming home to someone who affirms you're great, you're doing what you need to do, you're smart...You can tell somebody, "This is what I'm going through." And they can say, "This is what I went through"... the affirmations and affirming and just everything's going to be okay.” (35 years old & neutral to re-PrEP)

- **Black love as self-love**

“Black love is loving someone unconditionally, loving them how you would want to love yourself, how you would want to be treated, loving yourself first and foremost because you can't love anybody else until you love yourself. And once you love yourself, you project that onto whoever it is you're in a relationship with. And you're honest, you're loyal, and respectful.” (40 years old & on PrEP)

PHASE 4: PRODUCTION

Production of Draft 1:

From Centering-Informed
Group PrEP Care for
Black Women to...

PrEP-ing for Black Love.

Trust or lack of trust
with partner

Communication With
Partners and Providers

Proximity to HIV

Prioritization of PrEP

Trauma

Assumptions about who
PrEP is for

Black love

Talk about Sexual
Health

Bodily autonomy

Barriers to PrEP

Stigma

Lack of PrEP
Knowledge

PHASE 4: PRODUCTION DRAFT 2

Session 1: Sex positivity

- Sex positivity (beauty of Black sexuality and love)
- Sexual socialization

Session 2: HIV/STI prevention and education

- Myth vs Facts about HIV/STI
- Proximity to HIV
- Sexual health communication with partners

Session 3: PrEP for Black love

- PrEP stigma and no room shame
- PrEP prevention
- Role-playing self-advocacy with providers

PHASE 5: TOPICAL EXPERTS (RECOMMENDED CHANGES)

Original Activity	Expert Recommendations	Adaptation
The No Room for Shame Game	Suggested rewording to promote positive sexual messaging	Changed the name of the game to be called “What would I tell my younger self?”

PHASE 6: INTEGRATION (DRAFT 3)



Aligned Recommendations

Self-Advocacy: A skill requiring practice

Warm Hand-off: Turning a moment of interest into a moment of care



Other Recommendations

PrEP at the forefront of the first session:

Black women do not want to be pressured to be on medications like PrEP

PHASE 7: TRAINING



8-hour session provided to train healthcare providers, and other community stakeholders to facilitate PrEP-ing for Black Love.



Led by two group care trainers with experience in group care with underserved communities through socio-emotional learning and equity initiatives.



Various group activities:


Group Rule Setting, Paired Sharing, Role Playing.



Didactic instruction about adult learning theory and what happens during group care, including health assessment, interactive learning, and community building.

PHASE 7 & 8: THEATER TESTING (N=5)

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- ✓ Black women enjoyed the group care experience
 - ✓ Learned useful HIV/STI prevention, PrEP, and sexual health info
 - ✓ Responses from survey questions were positive overall
 - ✓ Sisterhood of all Black women felt safe
 - ✓ Disclosure of previous traumas met with support
 - ✓ Two of five participants opted for onsite provider visit and linked to care
 - ✓ One out of the five participants opted to initiate PrEP
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