

REACHING WOMEN THROUGH THEIR HIV-POSITIVE MALE PARTNERS: THE PRO MEN INITIATIVE

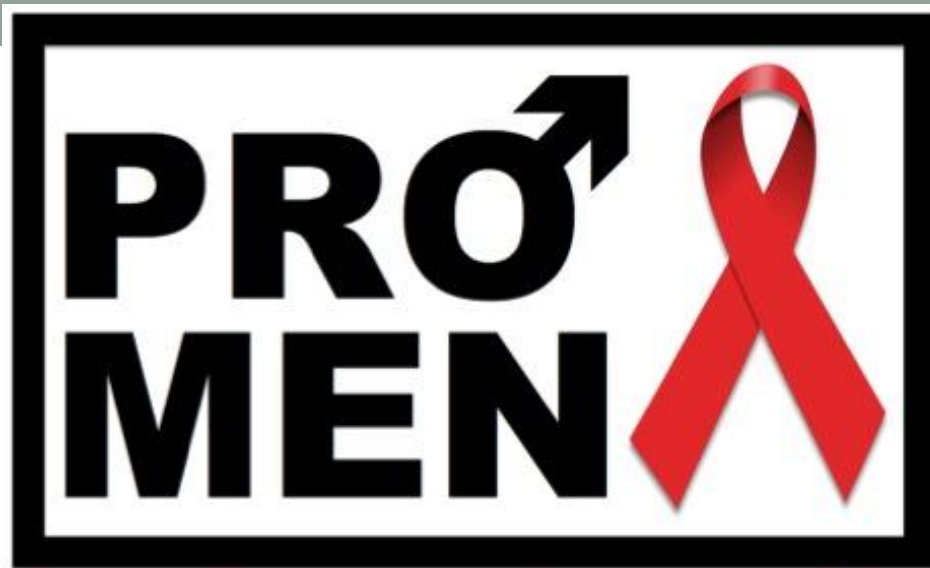


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Background

- CDC estimates there are 140,000 serodifferent heterosexual couples in the U.S. - half desire children.
- Lack of knowledge about or resources for men living with HIV who desire children.
- Over half of pregnancies in the US are unplanned. This rate climbs >80% for women living with HIV.
- Generally, women get pregnant and acquire HIV through condomless sex with a man.



Positive Reproductive Outcomes for Men

Initiative launched by BAPAC at SFGH's Ward 86 HIV clinic:

- Aimed at the ~500 HIV+ men who have sex with women
- Supporting HIV+ men's sexual & reproductive health intentions
- Integrating sexual & reproductive health care into a primary care
- HIV- female partners can receive care at BAPAC
- hiv.ucsf.edu/care/perinatal/pro_men.html



BAPAC

Bay Area Perinatal
AIDS CENTER

Methods

To inform video production, patient and provider tool creation and program development we:

- Led focus groups with HIV-positive men who have sex with women
- Conducted thought leader interviews
- Reviewed calls to UCSFs National Perinatal HIV Hotline highlighting clinicians' questions and consultation needs

Program

- Many HIV-positive men in the PRO Men initiative report a desire a family but also say they've never been asked by their providers whether they want to have a child.
- Their HIV-negative female partners report stigma from family, friends and medical providers around their goals to conceive.

Monthly PRO Men support groups launched in 2013, additional videos were produced and in collaboration with the San Francisco AIDS Education and Training Center a provider education event was held.

Resources

For Patients:

- PRO Men, adherence, disclosure, ovulation videos
- Safer conception, PrEP, contraception information in english & spanish

For Providers:

- Videos on challenging topics
- Antepartum template
- Provider algorithm
 - *Decision tree for sexually active men and women*



Results

During 2014:

- 44 men sought a one-on-one visit with the PRO Men nurse yielding 73 total visits
- 7 men brought their HIV-negative female partner for a couple visit
- 7 women attended clinic for a one-on-one partner visit with the PRO Men nurse
- 13 women were referred for HIV-testing and screening for pre-exposure prophylaxis
- 40 providers sought 54 consultations.

Conclusion

- We are at an incredible time of promise in the HIV epidemic with the knowledge needed to eliminate perinatal and sexual HIV transmission.
- Supporting men living with HIV in achieving their sexual and reproductive health goals is an integrated treatment and prevention strategy.
- The PRO Men approach provides a unique opportunity to reach HIV-uninfected female partners of HIV-positive men.