PrEP Continuation Among Peri-Conception, Pregnant and Lactating Women in Kenya

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Background

- There is a high risk of HIV acquisition during pregnancy and postpartum periods for women in high HIV prevalence settings
- Data are limited on PrEP use during peri-conception, pregnancy, and breastfeeding periods.

Methods

- Data are from the Partners Scale-Up Project, a stepped-wedge cluster-randomized pragmatic trial of PrEP delivery in 25 public HIV clinics in Kenya.
- We examined the relation between PrEP continuation and fertility intentions, pregnancy and breastfeeding status during the first year of PrEP.

Results

- 2640 women initiated PrEP, median age was 31 years [24-36]
- High HIV acquisition risk:
  - 80% serodifferent relationships
  - 44% inconsistent condom use
  - 12% multiple sex partners.
- At baseline, 11% were pregnant, and 16% breastfeeding
- Diverse fertility intentions:
  - 15.4% actively trying to conceive
  - 24.6% had future pregnancy intention
  - 33.1% had no pregnancy intention.

- In a large, real-world trial, PrEP retention was highest among women actively trying to conceive
- Pregnant and breastfeeding women were retained on PrEP at similar rates to women who were not pregnant or breastfeeding

Results

- PrEP continuation at 1, 3, and 6 months was 59%, 45%, and 36%, respectively
- PrEP continuation at months 1, 3, and 6 did not differ by breastfeeding or pregnant status at baseline (Fig 1)
- PrEP continuation at months 1, 3, and 6 was higher for those actively trying to conceive versus those with future and no plans to conceive (p<=0.01 for all comparisons) (Fig 2)

Figure 1: Retention by Baseline Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Status

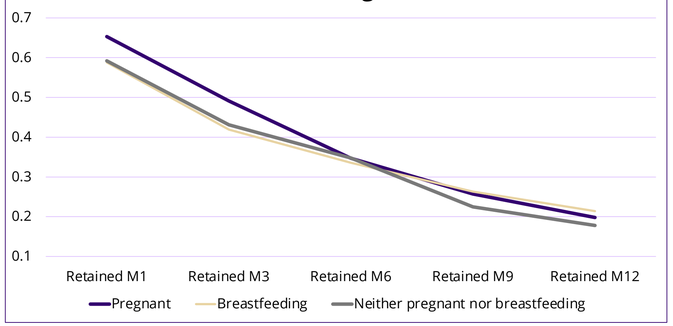
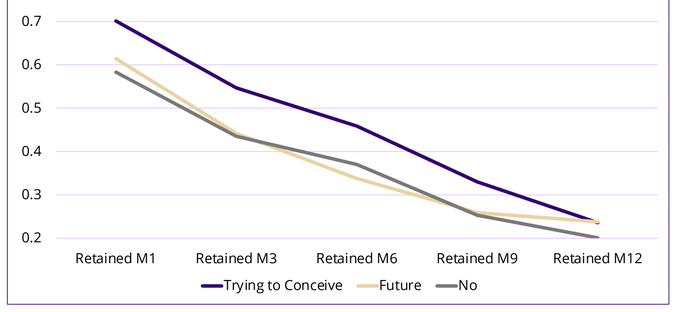


Figure 2: Retention by Baseline Pregnancy Intention



Discussion

- In this large real-world program, intention to conceive was associated with better continuation on PrEP
- Pregnancy and breastfeeding periods had similar continuation patterns as non-pregnant periods.
- More work is needed to understand how to best target PrEP towards women in the pregnant, lactating and peri-conception periods, and to understand reasons for discontinuation