



CROI
Conference on Retroviruses
and Opportunistic Infections

2023, Seattle, Washington

The CROI conference highlights the latest research and science on HIV prevention and HIV treatment, HIV vaccines, Covid-19 and MPX via basic science, clinical science, epidemiology and public health.

Opening Plenary <https://www.croiconference.org/preliminary-agenda/>

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Three topics on MPX, PrEP and DoxyPEP have been listed below in plenary, abstracts, and recording of oral presentations.

MPX

| Abstract No | Session title | Topic | Notes |
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| 897 | MPOX EPIDEMIOLOGY, IMPACT ON SEXUAL BEHAVIORS, AND STIGMA | MPOX AMONG MSM IN THE NETHERLANDS PRIOR TO MAY 2022, A RETROSPECTIVE STUDY | Netherlands |
| 911 | MPOX CHARACTERISTICS AND OUTCOMES | MPOX IN AMSTERDAM: CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY AMONG MSM AT THE CENTRE FOR SEXUAL HEALTH | Netherlands |

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| 953 | MPOX TESTING | MPOX VIRAL LOAD BY SPECIMEN TYPE AND DIAGNOSTIC TESTING IN A CLINICAL LABORATORY | Canada- highest MPX viral load in genital lesions |
| 896 | MPOX EPIDEMIOLOGY, IMPACT ON SEXUAL BEHAVIORS, AND STIGMA | MPOX VIRUS IN THE PHARYNX OF MEN HAVING SEX WITH MEN: A CASE SERIES | Italy- MPX can persist in the pharynx for long. |
| 955 | MPOX TESTING | PERFORMANCE OF A DUAL TARGET MPOX VIRUS REAL-TIME PCR ASSAY | |
| 925 | MODELLING MPOX AND COVID-19 | MODELLING THE MPOX EPIDEMIC IN THE UK OVER MAY-AUGUST 2022 | |
| 377 | MPOX VACCINES AND IMMUNOPATHOGENESIS | IMMUNOGENICITY OF MVA-BN VACCINATION WITH HYBRID ADMINISTRATION ROUTE | Italy-MVA-BN vaccine induced neutralizing antibodies (nAB), but 1/3 showed a decline in nAB. No difference between non-PLHIV & PLHIV. |
| 378 | MPOX VACCINES AND IMMUNOPATHOGENESIS | IMMUNE RESPONSES AND VIRAL DYNAMICS AFTER MPOX INFECTION IN THE 2022 OUTBREAK | Spain- immune responses in PLHIV vs. non-PLHIV |
| 379 | MPOX VACCINES AND IMMUNOPATHOGENESIS | NOVEL SEROASSAYS DETECT MPOX-SPECIFIC AND VACCINE-INDUCED ORTHOPOXVIRUS IMMUNITY | U.S- developed and validated the first Mpx-specific seroassay, to longitudinally detect immunity to MPXV & community spread. |
| 954 | MPOX TESTING | MPOX VIRUS (MPXV) OUTBREAK IN BERLIN: IMPLEMENTATION OF MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS | Germany- despite vaccination campaign we still have MPX infections including 4 cases of |

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| | | | vaccine breakthrough (single dose) with high viral load. |
| 950 | MPOX TESTING | MPOX TESTING AMONG MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN WHO REPORTED RECENT HIV OR STI TESTING | US, CDC- recommend integrate MPX testing with STI testing for sexually active MSM. |
| 912 | MPOX CHARACTERISTICS AND OUTCOMES | CHARACTERISTICS OF PATIENTS HOSPITALIZED WITH MPOX DURING THE 2022 US OUTBREAK | US, CDC- severe morbidity & mortality in persons with <200 CD4+ cells, AIDS, racialized, homeless, & required ICU care. Note – extremely graphic images. |
| 904 | MPOX CHARACTERISTICS AND OUTCOMES | MPOX VIRUS INFECTION IS MORE SEVERE IN PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED HIV INFECTION | Spain- PLHIV not on effective ARV/uncontrolled HIV infections develop more severe outcomes with MPX infections. |
| 1002 | MPOX PREVENTION | EVALUATING THE USE OF DOSE-SPARING VACCINATION STRATEGIES FOR MPOX | US- “When MPX vaccine supply is limited and fractional-dose vaccination retains moderate effectiveness, there are meaningful health benefits from providing a smaller dose to a larger number of people in the high-risk population.” |
| 739 | MPOX: CLINICAL FEATURES AND SEVERITY SCALES | CLINICAL PRESENTATION OF MPOX IN PEOPLE WITH AND WITHOUT HIV | UK – PLHIV with uncontrolled viral load were hospitalized-no deaths. “...high prevalence of well-controlled HIV co-infection, but we find no evidence that PLWH experience more severe mpox.” |
| 951 | MPOX TESTING | FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH MPOX SYMPTOMS AND TESTING AMONG MSM IN THE US, AUGUST 2022 | US- “An mpox neutral approach could integrate mpox testing and vaccination within PrEP and STI |

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| | | | programs and incorporate targeted outreach to reduce barriers to mpox services for MSM in rural areas” racialized, and PLHIV. |
| 899 | MPOX EPIDEMIOLOGY, IMPACT ON SEXUAL BEHAVIORS, AND STIGMA | SEXUAL BEHAVIOR REDUCTION DO NOT EXPLAIN DECREASED MPOX INCIDENCE AMONG PREP USERS. | Italy- “Sexual behavior did not change after vaccination nor a diagnosis of MPX.....reduction of risky sexual behavior and MPX vaccination do not explain the vanishing of epidemics.” |
| 209 | EPIDEMIOLOGY AND PREVENTION OF MPOX AND SARS-CoV-2 (see video below) | HOUSEHOLD TRANSMISSION OF MPOX TO CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS | US- “risk of household transmission is low, pediatric household contacts should be offered PEP to prevent MPOX spread.” |
| 910 | MPOX CHARACTERISTICS AND OUTCOMES | MPOX IN THE CONTEXT OF POPULATION-LEVEL HIV TREATMENT AND HIV PREP PROGRAMS IN BC | BC, Canada- “mpox cases in BC were prescribed HIV PrEP, consistent with overlapping risk behaviour and eligibility criteria for HIV PrEP with mpox transmission and vaccine eligibility.” ... emphasize the importance of screening for sexually transmitted infections, including HIV, in persons being evaluated for mpox.” |
| 157 | GLOBAL EPIDEMIOLOGY OF HIV | MOLECULAR HIV CLUSTERING OF INDIVIDUALS WITH MPOX/HIV COMORBIDITY | US- “study supports to the use of HIV molecular clustering to identify individuals for priority public health interventions, including MPOX vaccination and testing. |

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| 1033 | INTERTWINED: MPOX AND STI EPIDEMIOLOGY | MPOX AND SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTION AMONG MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN | US- This analysis demonstrated that there is a temporal relationship between mpox positivity among GBMSM and a recent history of STI as well as current PrEP use. |
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MPX oral presentations

INTRODUCTIONS

Diane V. Havlir

University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, United States

<https://www.croiwebcasts.org/console/player/51931?mediaType=slideVideo&>

Abstract 39: STAGE THE SETTING: THE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF THE MPOX VIRUS

John Brooks

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA, United States

<https://www.croiwebcasts.org/console/player/51878?mediaType=slideVideo&>

Abstract 40: MOLECULAR PATHOGENESIS AND THERAPEUTIC TARGETS FOR MPOX VIRUS

Stuart N. Isaacs

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, United States

<https://www.croiwebcasts.org/console/player/51879?mediaType=slideVideo&>

Abstract 41: IMMUNOLOGY AND VACCINOLOGY PERSPECTIVES FOR MPOX VIRUS

Sharon Frey

Saint Louis University, St Louis, MO, United States

<https://www.croiwebcasts.org/console/player/51880?mediaType=slideVideo&>

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Diane V. Havlir

University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, United States

<https://www.croiwebcasts.org/console/player/51932?mediaType=slideVideo&>

Abstract 207: EFFECTIVENESS OF SMALLPOX VACCINATION TO PREVENT MPOX IN MILITARY PERSONNEL

Boghuma K. Titanji

Emory University, Atlanta, GA, United States

<https://www.croiwebcasts.org/console/player/51864?mediaType=slideVideo&>

Abstract 208: IMPACT OF VACCINATION ON MPOX INCIDENCE IN MSM ON PrEP IN THE ANRS 174 DOXYVAC TRIAL

Jade Ghosn

University of Paris Cité, Paris, France

<https://www.croiwebcasts.org/console/player/51865?mediaType=slideVideo&>

Abstract 209: HOUSEHOLD TRANSMISSION OF MPOX TO CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

Video <https://www.croiwebcasts.org/console/player/51866?mediaType=slideVideo&>

PrEP MSM

| Abstract no | Session title | Topic | Notes |
|-------------|---|---|--|
| 987 | PrEP USE IN SPECIAL POPULATIONS | BONE DENSITY CHANGES WITH CAB-LA OR TDF/FTC PREP IN MSM AND TGW IN HPTN 083 | US- for persons with low bone mineral density & fracture risk factors CAB-LA PrEP may be beneficial for bone health. |

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| 590 | NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN HCV EPIDEMIOLOGY AND TREATMENT | HCV INCIDENCE AMONG MSM ON PREP AND MSM WITH HIV IN NEW YORK CITY OVER 2 DECADES | US-MSM on PrEP emerged as risk group for HCV infection. “Our data indicate that active HCV surveillance is needed for MSM on PrEP, and the CDC PrEP guidelines, which do not adequately address HCV testing, should be updated. Most importantly, further HCV risk reduction and prevention efforts are needed for both MSM on PrEP and MSM with HIV.” |
| 971 | PrEP AND PEP: ADHERENCE MEASURES AND STIs | SEXUAL BEHAVIOR AND STI INCIDENCE DURING THE FIRST 4 YEARS OF PREP USE AMONG MSM | Amsterdam- “Regular testing and treatment of STIs remain a priority among PrEP users.” |
| 184 | NEUROPATHOGENESIS AND NEUROLOGIC COMPLICATIONS OF HIV AND SARS-COV-2 | INCREASED IMMUNE ACTIVATION IN HIV+ MSM ON ART, BUT NOT WHEN COMPARED TO MSM ON PREP | Sweden- “We found increased markers of immune activation and neuronal injury in both virologically suppressed PLWH and HIV-negative persons on PrEP compared to HIV-negative volunteers.” Re: https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/9049785/ |
| 1064 | HIV CARE CASCADE | NEW HIV DIAGNOSES IN THE SETTING OF PUBLICLY FUNDED PREP IN BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA | Canada- “To date, no cases of emergent PrEP-related tenofovir resistance have been observed within our cohort. Centralized HIV treatment and prevention facilitated rapid ART initiation in PrEP clients with new HIV diagnosis.” |

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| 982 | PrEP USE IN SPECIAL POPULATIONS | ASSOCIATION OF METH USE AMONG GBMSM ON HIV PRE-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS CARE ENGAGEMENT | US- “Odds of inconsistent PrEP engagement were higher when meth use was reported by either participant and partner or both. “ |
| 161 | ALL MODES LEAD TO PrEP | CABOTEGRAVIR FOR HIV PREP IN US BLACK MEN AND TRANSGENDER WOMEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN | US- “CAB-LA is a powerful HIV prevention tool to reduce HIV incidence among Black MSM and TGW, and implementation must focus on ensuring access and addressing disparities in HIV incidence among these populations. |
| 983 | PrEP USE IN SPECIAL POPULATIONS | NO IMPROVEMENT IN PREEXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS USE AMONG PWID: SAN FRANCISCO, 2018-2022 | US- “PrEP discussions with HCP and PrEP use were significantly lower among PWID in 2022.” |
| 204 | OPTIMIZING THE HIV TREATMENT CASCADE | URINE TENOFOVIR LEVELS PREDICT VIRAL SUPPRESSION IN PATIENTS ON TENOFOVIR ALAFENAMIDE | US-Participant on PrEP with low tenofovir levels predict future sero conversion, and for PLHIV on TAF regimen to achieve viral suppression with improved adherence |

Oral presentations on PrEP and PEP

Abstract 204: Video: Urine Tenofovir levels predict viral suppression in patients on tenofovir alafenamide.

<https://www.croiwebcasts.org/console/player/51857?mediaType=slideVideo&>

SESSION OVERVIEW - GETTING PrEPped (AND PEPped) FOR SEX: FROM HIV TO STIs TO MPOX

Bridget G. Haire

Kirby Institute, Sydney, Australia

Maryam Shahmanesh

Africa Health Research Institute, Durban, South Africa

<https://www.croiwebcasts.org/console/player/51783?mediaType=slideVideo&>

Abstract 34: IMPLEMENTING THE PrEP AND PEP TOOLKIT

Colleen Kelley

Emory University, Atlanta, GA, United States

<https://www.croiwebcasts.org/console/player/51785?mediaType=slideVideo&>

Abstract 35: PREVENTION OF STIs IN ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS A SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH PERSPECTIVE

James Kiarie

World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland

<https://www.croiwebcasts.org/console/player/51786?mediaType=slideVideo&>

DISCUSSION WITH ANSWERS TO AUDIENCE QUESTIONS

Bridget G. Haire

Kirby Institute, Sydney, Australia

Maryam Shahmanesh

Africa Health Research Institute, Durban, South Africa

<https://www.croiwebcasts.org/console/player/51788?mediaType=slideVideo&>

DOXYPEP

Abstract 120: DOXYPEP & ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE IN N. GONORRHOEAE, COMMENSAL NEISSERIA & S. AUREUS

Anne F. Luetkemeyer

University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, United States

Video (8 mins) <https://www.croiwebcasts.org/console/player/51577?mediaType=slideVideo&>

Webcast <https://streamst.capitalreach.com/c/croi/2023croi/51577v1.mp3>

| Abstract no | Session title | Topic | Notes |
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| 119 | HIV AND STI PREVENTION: NEW TOOLS AND APPROACHES | ANRS 174 DOXYVAC: AN OPEN-LABEL RANDOMIZED TRIAL TO PREVENT STIS IN MSM ON PREP | France- “MSM on HIV PrEP, doxycycline PEP significantly reduced the incidence of CT and syphilis and also had a significant impact on the incidence of GC. Meningococcal B vaccine also reduced the incidence of GC. |
| 120 See video (8 mins) | HIV AND STI PREVENTION: NEW TOOLS AND APPROACHES | DOXYPEP & ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE IN N. GONORRHOEAE, COMMENSAL NEISSERIA & S. AUREUS | US- “Doxy-PEP may be less protective against incident tetracycline resistance gonorrhea(TCN-R GC); surveillance for the impact of TCN-R GC on doxy-PEP efficacy and doxy-PEP on GC resistance is needed.” |

Lanese. N (2023). How are People Cured of HIV? Here’s everything you need to know. Retrieved from [How are people cured of HIV? Here's everything you need to know | Live Science](#)