



Welcome to PrEP Group TA PrEP Initiation Session

We will get started in a moment!

In the meantime, please use the chat to share the following information:

- What is your name? What are your pronouns?
- What is your title/role?
- What organization you are from?
- What is the best thing you ate this week?

PrEP Initiation

February 24, 2021



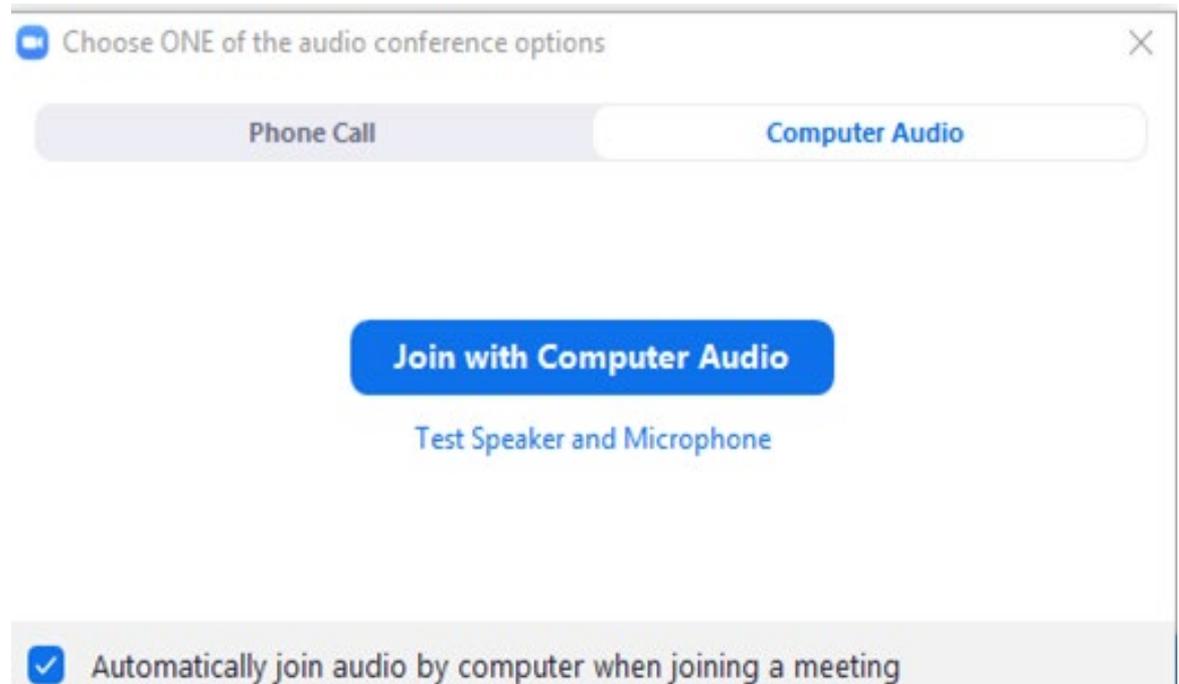


PrEP Group TA Sessions

| Session | Topic | Date |
|------------------|--|------------------|
| Session 1 | Staff Awareness of PrEP | Jan. 27 @ 3pm ET |
| Session 2 | Access to PrEP for your clients | Feb. 10 @ 3pm ET |
| Session 3 | Initiation of PrEP among clients indicated | Today! |
| Session 4 | Adherence to PrEP regimen among clients on PrEP | Mar. 10 @ 3pm ET |

Housekeeping: How to Connect to Audio by Computer

Join using **computer audio** and a plug-in headset or computer speakers



The image shows a screenshot of a meeting software interface. At the top, there is a title bar with a close button (X) and the text "Choose ONE of the audio conference options". Below this, there are two radio button options: "Phone Call" and "Computer Audio". The "Computer Audio" option is selected, indicated by a blue dot. Below the options, there is a large blue button labeled "Join with Computer Audio" and a smaller, lighter blue button labeled "Test Speaker and Microphone". At the bottom of the dialog, there is a checkbox that is checked, with the text "Automatically join audio by computer when joining a meeting".

Choose ONE of the audio conference options

Phone Call Computer Audio

Join with Computer Audio

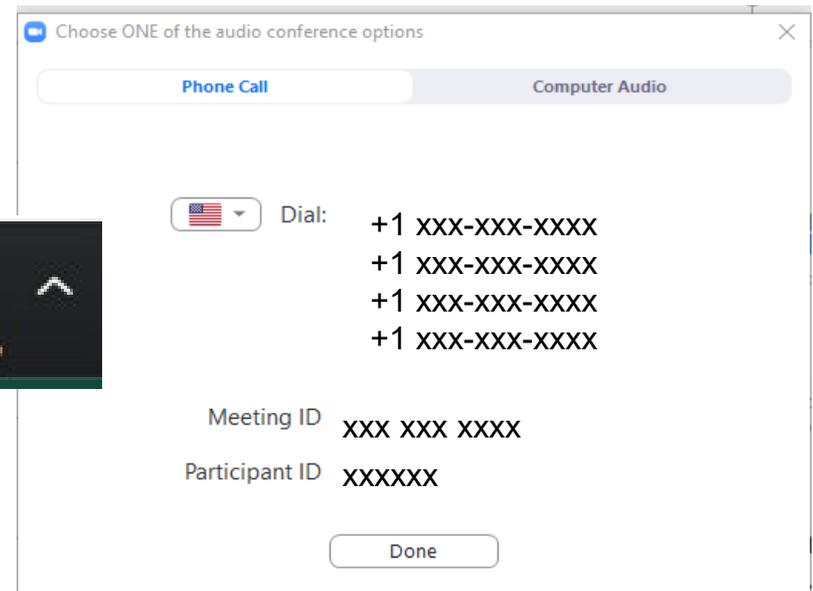
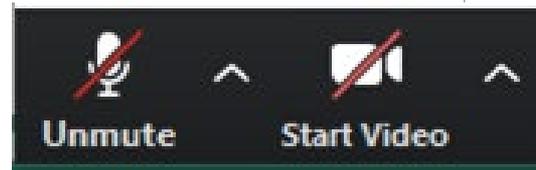
Test Speaker and Microphone

Automatically join audio by computer when joining a meeting

Housekeeping: Connecting by Phone, Using Video

Join by **phone**: Click **Join Audio, Phone Call** tab, dial the desired phone number, **Enter Meeting ID & Participant ID**.

You will begin muted. To **unmute/mute** click the **Microphone icon**. Click **Start Video** to join by webcam.



Housekeeping: How to Participate

- **Chat:** Click the Chat icon to open the Chat panel
Hold the Ctrl key and press + to increase font
- **Reactions:** Located at the bottom of the Participants panel
- **Need help?** Type into the Chat box!





Today's Agenda

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Purpose of PrEP Virtual Group TA
3. PrEP **Initiation**
 1. Shared definition of PrEP **Initiation**
 2. Optimal PrEP **Initiation** Scenario
 3. Review of PrEP **Initiation** Best Practices
 4. **Initiation** indicators
4. PrEP **Initiation** Panel Discussion
5. Small Group Breakout Discussions
6. Wrap Up



Learning Objectives

After today's session, participants will be able to:

- Describe the importance of a workflow to increase **Initiation** of PrEP among eligible clients.
- Identify at least one opportunity for the agency to increase **Initiation** of PrEP among eligible clients.
- Identify at least one opportunity to standardize process for capturing data on PrEP **Initiation**.

Optimal Scenario: PrEP Initiation

The agency has a process to ensure that clients who decide to use PrEP **receive comprehensive PrEP services**, including providing information/counseling, ordering needed labs, connecting the client with a prescriber, and following up to ensure the client receives and fills PrEP prescription or starts the medication.

Moving from providing information, screening, and addressing barriers...

...to supporting clients who decide to use PrEP as they start PrEP.

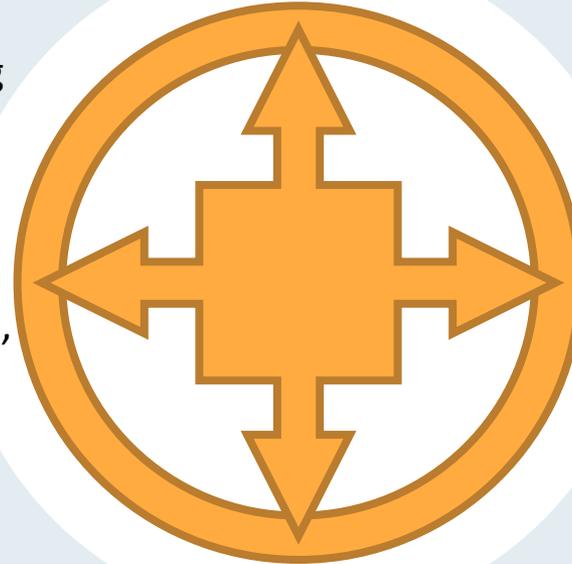
Where is your agency compared to the optimal scenario discussed?

1. We are very close to the optimal scenario.
2. We are on our way to achieving the optimal scenario.
3. We are aware of the optimal scenario and are working towards it.
4. We are beginning to work in this area.
5. We haven't done much in this area yet.

Components of PrEP Initiation

Education and counseling: Perceived and actual side effects or interactions, as well as importance of adherence after initiation, should be explicitly addressed in PrEP education when determining eligibility, along with receiving PrEP prescription.

Case manager or navigator continuing conversation with clients about PrEP, related care coordination, benefits/ enrollment, and follow up to confirm labs are complete and prescription is filled.



Clinician or prescriber provides baseline testing and initial prescription, and then ongoing clinical support (retesting and refills).

Ordering and completing/ filling needed labs and prescriptions: Navigating access to and completion of baseline testing including HIV testing, renal function, Hepatitis B Serology, etc. needed prior to starting PrEP. Providing navigation and support services to get prescription.



Best Practice: Education/counseling is important to address client questions

- 1** Talk about perceived or actual side effects.
- 2** Answer questions about interactions or side effects for people who are on gender affirming hormones or are on other medications such as buprenorphine.
- 3** Educate on importance of taking PrEP consistently to prevent HIV and proactively discuss strategies.

When working with clients, how long or how many contacts are needed between from offering PrEP (starting the conversation) to a client deciding to start PrEP for the first time?

1. One conversation usually does it.
2. Several conversations/ contacts are needed.
3. It usually takes many conversations or contacts in order for a client to decide to start PrEP.
4. It takes many conversations, and even then, clients often decide not to use PrEP.

Best Practice: Rapid PrEP Initiation

Time to initiation is important for PrEP success. Research has found:

- Interventions that reduce time to PrEP initiation could prevent HIV infections.
- **PrEP initiation within a week** is feasible in a primary care safety-net health system.
- **Setting a goal of rapid PrEP initiation**, with the support of panel management and patient navigation, could address delays in getting PrEP among at-risk groups.

How long, on average, does it take your clients to go from deciding to use PrEP to having PrEP in hand?

- Less than one hour
 - Less than one day
 - 1-3 days
 - 3-5 days
 - About a week
 - Something else
 - Not sure
- 



Best Practice: STI Clinic-based PrEP Initiation

- **Implementation of PrEP at STI clinics could both increase the efficiency of screening (as many HIV-negative attendees will be eligible for PrEP) and offer PrEP to the individuals with highest-risk (i.e., patients who are infected with other STIs).**
 - STI clinics may not offer primary care services and may lack systems for ongoing clinical monitoring while primary care clinics can provide ongoing care, but may be less efficient in identifying eligible individuals and have little experience in prescribing and monitoring PrEP.

Source: Kasaie, P., Berry, S. A., Shah, M. S., Rosenberg, E. S., Hoover, K. W., Gift, T. L., ... Dowdy, D. W. (2018). Impact of Providing Preexposure Prophylaxis for Human Immunodeficiency Virus at Clinics for Sexually Transmitted Infections in Baltimore City. *Sexually Transmitted Diseases*, 45(12), 791–797. <https://doi.org/10.1097/olq.0000000000000882>



Best Practice: Minimize Delays between Receiving and Filling Rx

- **Delays between receiving a PrEP prescription and taking a first dose increase the risk of HIV infection.**
 - Patients often experience delays due to prior authorization (among those who have insurance), lack of coverage, and requirements of enrollment in assistance programs which require multiple points of contact.

Source: Serota, D. P., Rosenberg, E. S., Thorne, A. L., Sullivan, P. S., & Kelley, C. F. (2019). Lack of health insurance is associated with delays in PrEP initiation among young black men who have sex with men in Atlanta, US: a longitudinal cohort study. *Journal of the International AIDS Society*, 22(10).
<https://doi.org/10.1002/jia2.25399>



Best Practice: Same Day PrEP Initiation

- **Same-day PrEP initiation is acceptable, feasible, safe, and links a high proportion of individuals into ongoing PrEP care.**
 - Additional resources may be needed to support individual PrEP initiation (and retention) among clients who are experience access barriers, as discussed in Session 2.

Source: Kamis, K. F., Marx, G. E., Scott, K. A., Gardner, E. M., Wendel, K. A., Scott, M. L., ... Rowan, S. E. (2019). Same-Day HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Initiation During Drop-in Sexually Transmitted Diseases Clinic Appointments Is a Highly Acceptable, Feasible, and Safe Model that Engages Individuals at Risk for HIV into PrEP Care. *Open Forum Infectious Diseases*, 6(7).
<https://doi.org/10.1093/ofid/ofz310>

COVID has introduced new challenges to initiation. Here are some ways that agencies are addressing those:

Education and Counseling
By telephone
Outdoors in private location
Video chat
Text or email with permission

Laboratory testing
In-person at facility following in-person visit
At a local facility following telehealth visit
Mail-delivered self-test kits

Access to Prescriber
HIPAA-compliant video platform
TelePrEP
Telephone call (audio-only telehealth)
Secure messaging (e.g., portal)

PrEP medication access
Same day PrEP
Delivery by mail from local pharmacy
Pick-up at local pharmacy

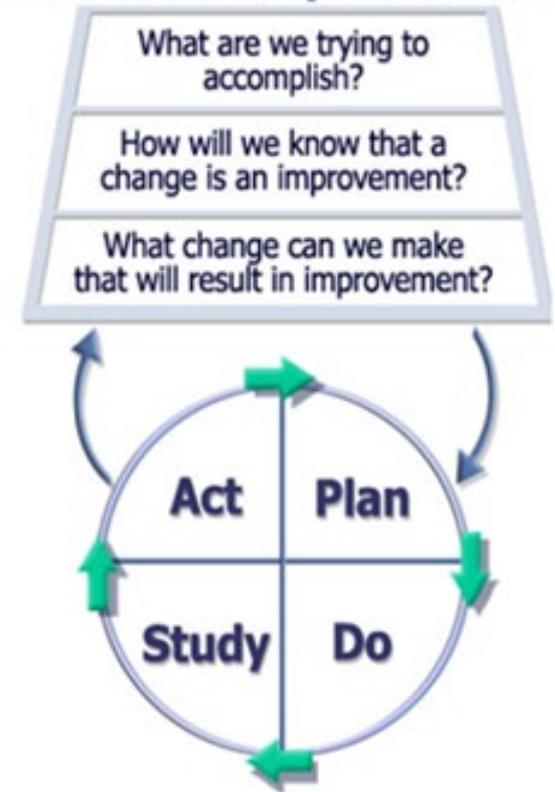
QI Approach: PrEP Initiation Metrics and Indicators



Using a QI Approach

Process to evaluate service delivery and make a measurable improvement, in this case, specifically around Initiation.

Model for Improvement



Developed by Associates in Process Improvement

Possible PrEP Initiation Indicators

| Indicator | Description and Initiation Considerations |
|---|--|
| #/% Patients clinically eligible for PrEP | Patients who have received needed baseline labs, without contraindication. <i>Among those who initiate PrEP navigation.</i> |
| # Clients linked to prescribing provider | Number of clients who received a formal referral or warm handoff to prescribing provider. |
| # Clients prescribed PrEP | Number of clients who receive prescription for PrEP |
| % Clients prescribed PrEP (among those who initiate PrEP navigation) | Numerator: # of clients prescribed PrEP Denominator: Clients who have been engaged in PrEP Navigation (had a PrEP navigation initiation date). <i>Alternatively, could be among clients who were linked to prescribing provider.</i> |

PrEP Initiation

Panel Discussion





Leader in
Social Justice

CENTER
BOSTON
MEDICAL

EXCEPTIONAL CARE. WITHOUT EXCEPTION.



Today's Panelists

Representatives from JRI and BMC
join us to share their experiences in
improving or increasing PrEP
Initiation for their clients.

**What questions do you have
for the panelists or
presenters?**



PrEP Initiation Breakout Discussions





Small Group Breakout Discussions

- First, take a five minute break!
- When you return, you will be sent into a virtual breakout group with approximately 10 of peers from across the state.
 - If you get a pop-up about being sent to the breakout room, click Join or accept.
- Once in the breakout room, the facilitator will introduce discussion questions and process for discussion.
- We'll reconvene after the small group discussions to closeout.



Takeaways: Please Share

*What will you **do differently** as a result of what has been discussed today?*

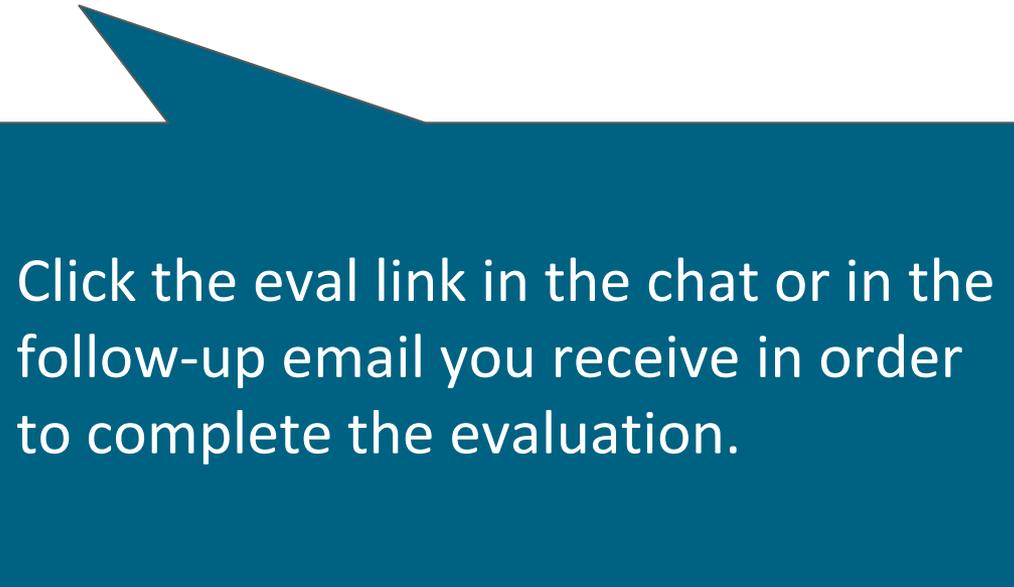
OR

*What is **one takeaway** that you will consider using in your agency going forward?*



Please Complete the Evaluation!

- Your feedback in the evaluation helps us plan future sessions and address your TA needs.
- Your feedback is appreciated!



Click the eval link in the chat or in the follow-up email you receive in order to complete the evaluation.



PrEP resources will soon be available in a searchable database on www.TA4SI.jsi.com!

The searchable database will include these resources and more:

- [PrEP Action Kit](#) (National LGBT Health Education Center/ Fenway Institute)
- [HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis \(PrEP\) Locations](#) (BIDLS/MDPH)
- [PleasePrEPme.org](#) (HealthHIV)
- [TAKING PrEP– A Daily Pill to Reduce Your Risk of Getting HIV](#) (CDC)



Next Steps

- Work with your team to share and implement your takeaways from today's session
- Determine how you can assess or measure **Initiation**, and apply QI principles to improve **Initiation** in your agency
- Join our next session focused on PrEP adherence on **March 10th from 3pm-5pm ET**



Join the TA4SI Mailing List!

- Sign up at this [link](#) to receive periodic updates from JSI's TA4SI project, including strategies, tools, and training to support service integration for BIDLS providers across infectious disease areas (HIV, hepatitis, STIs, and latent TB) and into primary care.

A decorative graphic in the top-left corner consisting of several overlapping, curved, teardrop-like shapes in various colors: yellow, red, teal, and dark purple.

Thank you for attending!