



High acceptance of PrEP among AGYW seeking contraception at retail pharmacies in Kenya (ID: 1106)

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Background

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- Retail pharmacies increase PrEP delivery options ^{1,2,3}
- AGYW in Kenya access contraception at pharmacies ¹
- Providing PrEP in this setting is a ‘high-yield’ strategy
- We evaluated characteristics of Kenyan AGYW seeking contraception and PrEP acceptance in pharmacies



**Study site in Kisumu*

¹ J.Pintye 2023 ; ² KF Ortblad 2020

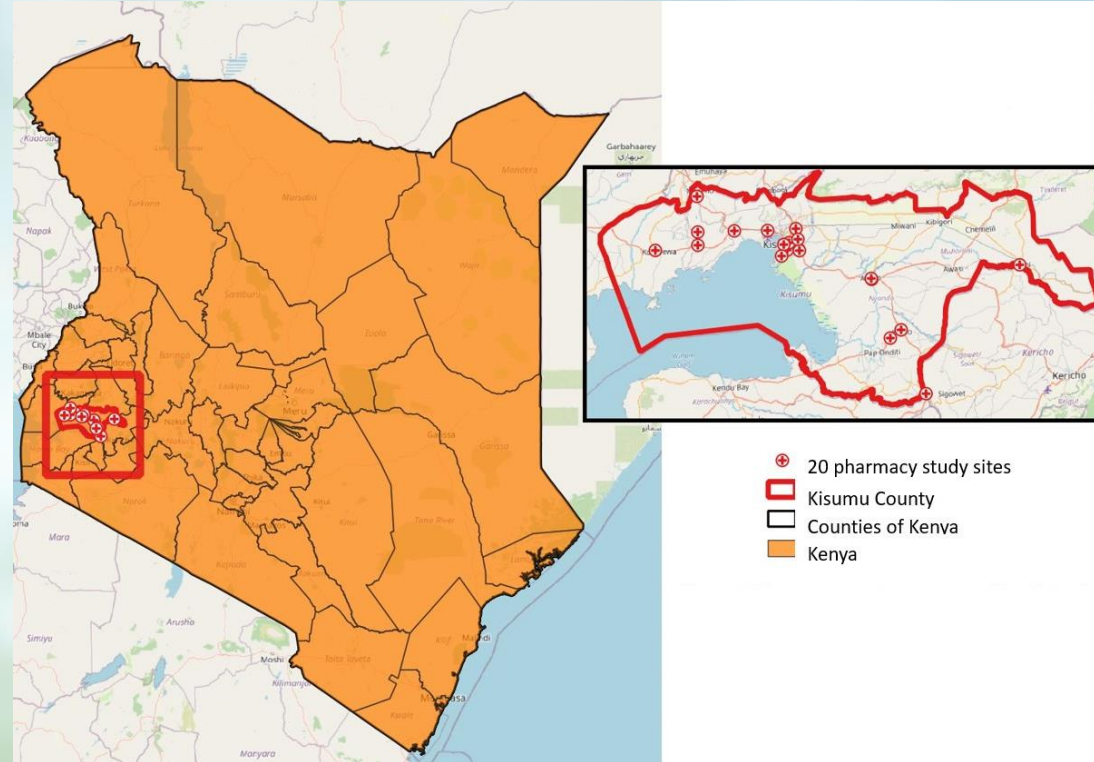
³ Kenya Ministry of Health. Framework for the implementation of pre-exposure prophylaxis of HIV in Kenya. Nairobi; 2017

Methods

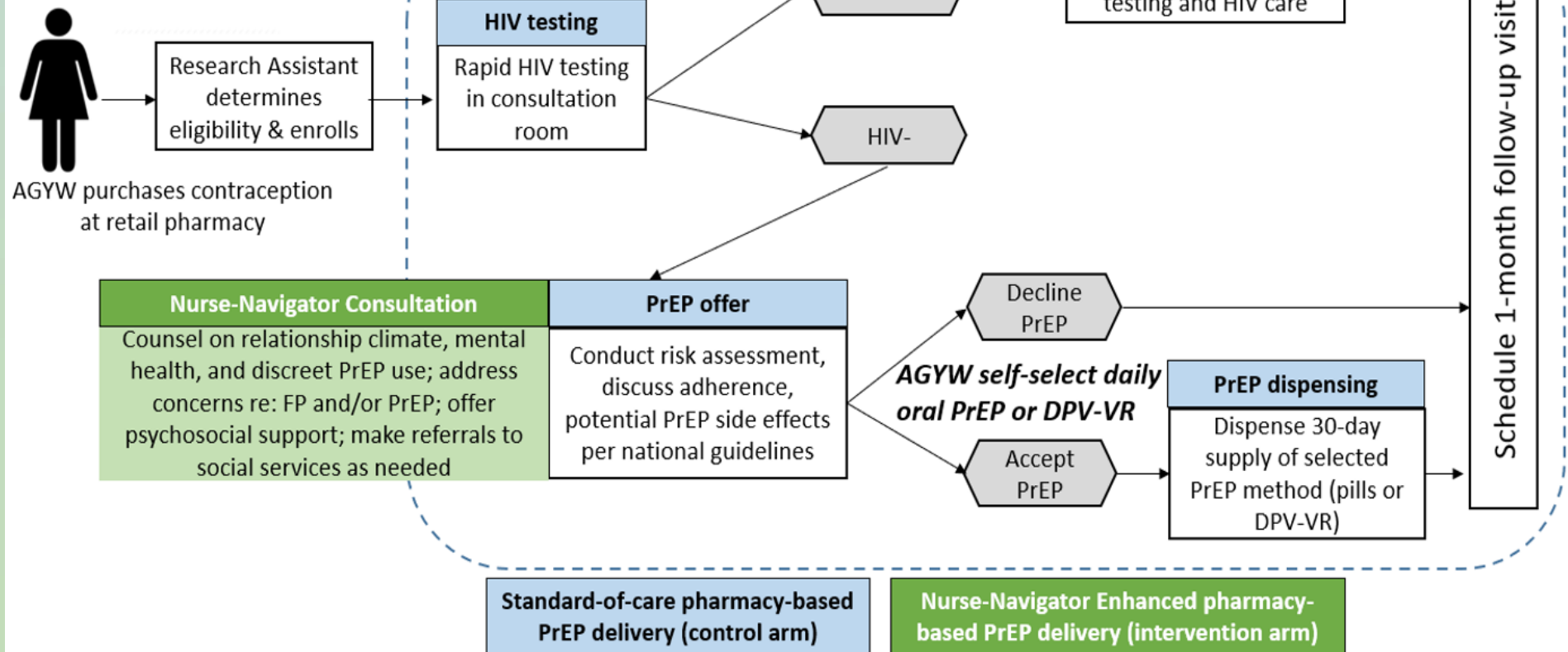
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- **Design:** 2-armed cluster RCT
- **Setting:** 20 pharmacies in Kisumu, Kenya
- **Pharmacy eligibility**
 - Private counseling space
 - Full range of contraceptives
- **Population:** Up-to 1900 AGYW without HIV seeking contraception at pharmacies



Remote physician oversight; available for medical consultation as needed

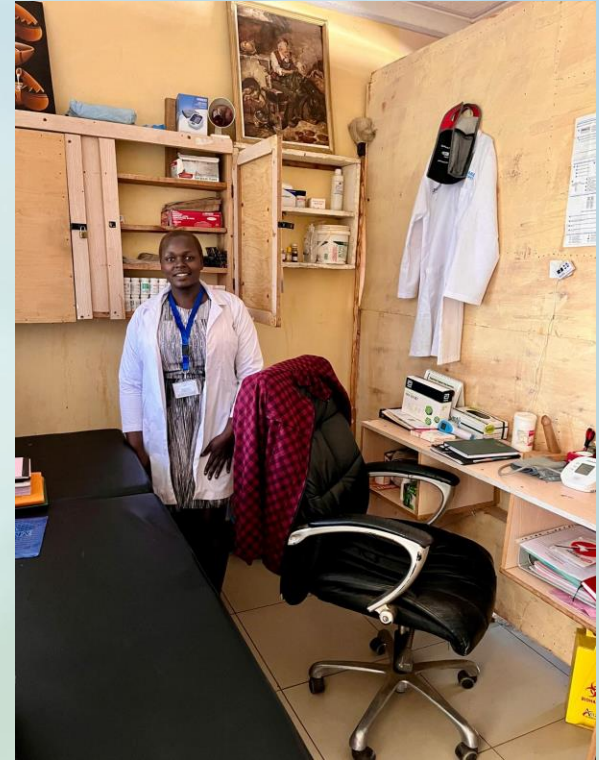


Methods (cont'd)

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- AGYW purchasing contraceptives offered PrEP
- Self-selected PrEP pills or dapivirine vaginal ring (DPV-VR)
- AGYW provided with a one-month supply
- We summarized enrollment characteristics, incl.:
 - PrEP Knowledge (previously heard of PrEP)
 - PrEP Acceptance (dispensed pills or DPV-VR)
 - PrEP Choice (pills or DPV-VR)





Demographic characteristics (n=1139)

Characteristic	% or Median (IQR)
Age, years	21 (19-23)
Unmarried	83%
Currently in school	41%
Reported prior pregnancy	48%
Depression symptoms	5%
Partner provide financial support	83%



Behavioral characteristics (n=1139)

Characteristic	% or Median (IQR)
Reported Condomless sex last 6 months	86%
Reported ≥ 1 sexual partner	20%
Reported transactional sex last 6 months	9%
Perceived moderate to high HIV risk	27%
Ever experienced intimate partner violence	13%
Accessing Emergency Contraception	50%
Had sex while intoxicated with alcohol or drugs	9%

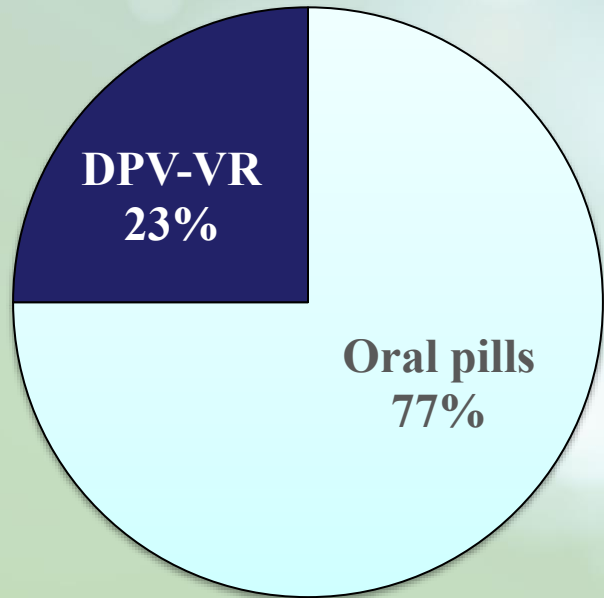


PrEP knowledge and acceptance (n=1139)

Characteristics	% or Median (IQR)
Previously heard of oral PrEP	80%
Previously heard of DPV-VR	8%
Accepted PrEP	85%
Know anyone taking PrEP	28%

PrEP choice (n=967)

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Reasons for selecting oral PrEP pills:

- Familiarity with pills (31%)
- Ease of use (31%)
- Fear/pain (26%)

Research for selecting DPV-VR:

- Avoidance of pill burden(14%)
- Private/someone won't know(7%)
- Easy to adhere(7%)

Discussion

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- AGYW seeking contraception at retail pharmacies in Kenya frequently have characteristics indicating high risk of HIV acquisition
- High acceptance of daily oral PrEP and DPV-VR among AGYW seeking contraception at retail pharmacies
- Availability of PrEP options in retail pharmacies would likely benefit AGYW.

Acknowledgements

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- Study participants
- AGYW Pharmacy PrEP Study team
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- NASCOP Kenya
- Kisumu County MoH
- Pharmacy owners/providers



AGYW Pharmacy PrEP Study Team