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Supporting the HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexual Health Workforce

24 May 2018

Survey of clinicians, members of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine (ASHM) about prescribing pre-exposure prophylaxis of HIV (PrEP)

I am writing to you to request your participation in a brief survey.

As you may know the Federal government has listed an effective combination of drugs – tenofovir with emtricitabine used for HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) – on the PBS from 1 April 2018. This will provide broader access for any doctor or general practitioner to be able prescribe PrEP to an Australian resident who holds a current Medicare card. This approval is based on evidence from studies of the drug, which found it to be extremely effective in preventing HIV infection. At least two large community trials in Australia shown HIV-infection rates to have dropped by 30 percent in trial participants.

The investigators on this survey would like to get more feedback about your knowledge and opinions as to PrEP implementation. Your responses to this survey will help us evaluate the providers' awareness about and willingness to prescribe PrEP and views as to how PrEP services can be best delivered, so that we can design better models of clinical PrEP delivery and further improve PrEP provision in Australia.

The study Participant Information Statement is attached to this email. It may answer your questions, should you have any, and can inform your decision to participate. Please take time to read it.

The survey is very brief and will only take about 15-25 minutes to complete. Please click the link below to go to the survey Web site (or copy and paste the link into your Internet browser) and then - follow instructions on the screen to access and complete the survey.

Survey link: <https://redcap.sydney.edu.au/surveys/?s=YTXCRXD9F3>

Your participation in the survey is completely voluntary. Your participation and survey responses will be kept confidential. No personally identifiable information will be associated with your responses or included in any reports of these data.

The summary of the survey findings will be circulated to all members of [name of the professional association].

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The University of Sydney Human Research Ethics Committee has approved this survey. Should you have any comments or questions, please feel free to contact the study chief investigator Associate Professor Iryna Zablotska at iryna.zablotska@sydney.edu.au or 02 9762 5382.

Thank you very much for your time and support. Your views on the implementation of HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis are very important to us.

Sincerely,

Katy Roy
HIV Program Manager

On behalf of the study chief investigator

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