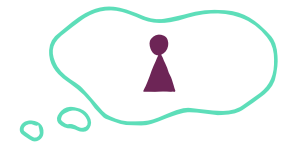


THE IV2HP STUDY

Improving Vaginal Health for HIV Prevention



WHAT:

This study was modeled after a sister study in Kenya and aims to understand how different forms of birth control can affect women's abilities to fight HIV.

WHY: ?

There is growing evidence to suggest that the birth control injection, Depo Provera, can increase inflammation and immune factors that can then increase risk of various STIs, including HIV.

Gaining further evidence of these effects is important for understanding and preventing HIV transmission.

HOW:

Women who test negative for common STIs, pregnancy, and HIV move forward to the study visit where blood is collected with several different genital samples obtained during a speculum exam.

Those samples are then sent to McMaster for processing by the lab team.

IMPACT:

This study is ongoing with overall impacts and data to be assessed upon completion, to date:



48

women
recruited

The sister study in Kenya has already had an impact at WHIWH Centre, as it built on existing evidence that Depo-Provera comes with risks, in addition to the known risk of osteoporosis.



Subsequently, rates of Depo-Provera prescription have lowered at the Centre.

WHO: Principle Investigators: Wangari Tharao and Dr. Charu Kaushic | Samples collected by Elizabeth Tevlin; processed and analyzed by Kristen Mueller, Jocelyn Wessels, and Haley Dupont.. | Community Advisory members: Stella Osagie, Valerie Pierre-Pierre, Shazia Islam, Madjiguene Niane, Jenny Cheng, Alexander Vadala, Shannon Ryan, Fanta Ongoiba..

Funder: Canadian Institutes of Health Research