

PROJECT STOP: The Syphilis to PREP Cascade

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Purpose

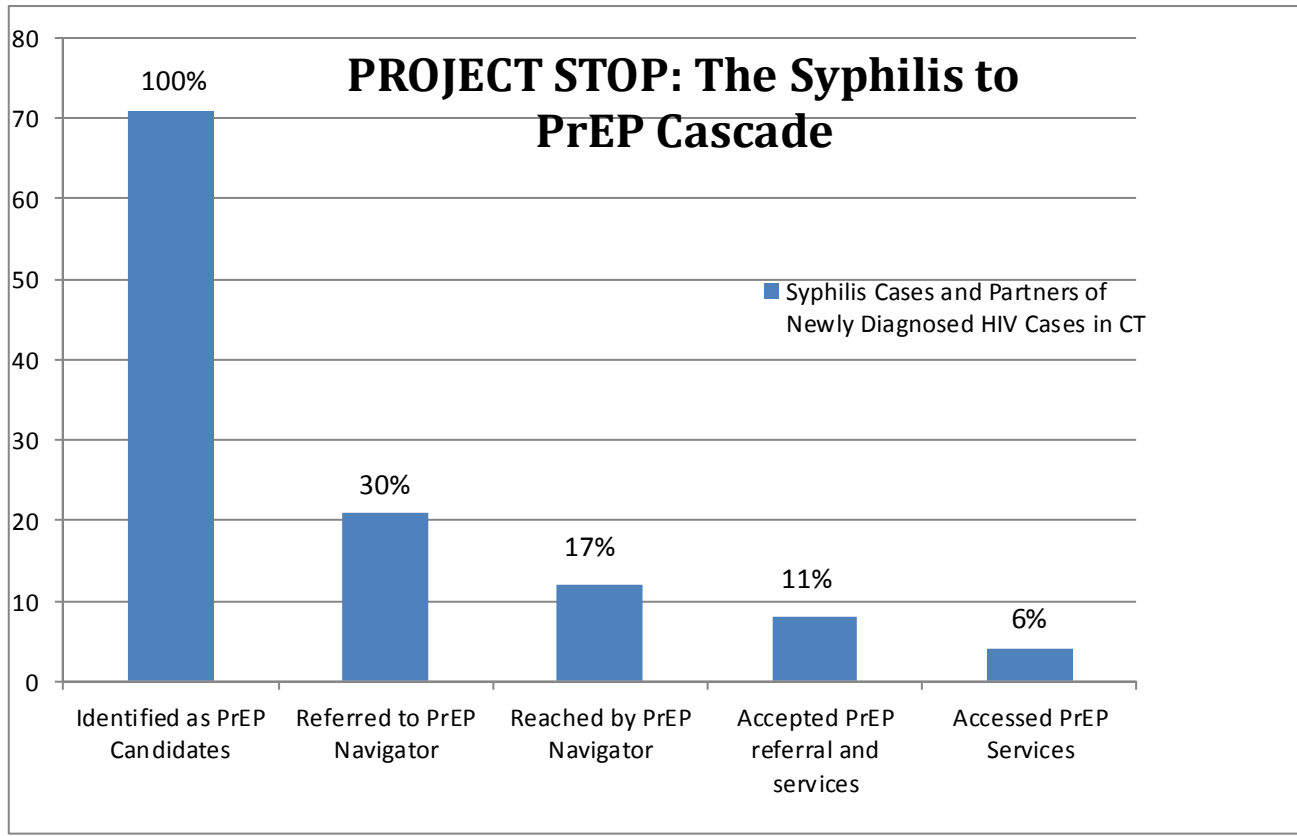
- Utilize existing health service infrastructure to link individuals reported to Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) for syphilis or partners of newly diagnosed HIV cases to PrEP.
- Identify PrEP providers in Connecticut and a process for patient referrals.
- Increase awareness and uptake of PrEP prescribing among Connecticut primary care physicians.

Methods

- Since September 2015, all reported [syphilis](#) cases and partners of newly diagnosed HIV cases to DPH are identified as PrEP candidates.
- Disease intervention specialist (DIS) refers case to DPH PrEP Navigator and notifies PrEP candidate of future contact during routine calls.
- The PrEP Navigator contacts candidate to provide PrEP education and [linkage to PrEP](#) services.

Syphilis to PrEP Cascade (3/31/16)

Step	Progress
Identify PrEP Candidate	71 individuals with syphilis or a partner of newly diagnosed HIV were reported to DPH
Refer candidate to PrEP Navigator	21 individuals referred by DIS to PrEP Navigator
Link candidate to PrEP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12 individuals were reached by PrEP Navigator• 8 accepted PrEP referral• 4 accessed PrEP services



September 2015-March 2016

Lessons for Network

- Involve key players in protocol development
- PrEP Continuum
 - Integrate PrEP in routine DIS calls
 - Repeat contact with PrEP candidates
 - Connect with local PrEP navigators for handoff
- Increase PrEP uptake by more providers

DPH PrEP Working Group

- Marianne Buchelli, DPH
- Sarah K. Calabrese, CIRA
- Daniel Davidson, DPH
- A.C. Demidont, CIRCLE CARE
- Dulce Dones-Mendez, DPH
- Heidi Jenkins, DPH
- Jianghong Li, ICR
- Jim Pettinelli, CIRA
- Krystn R. Wagner, FHCHC
- Peg Weeks, ICR



Progress

- “Putting PrEP Into Practice”
 - 1 hour trainings for primary care clinicians
 - Coordinated by DPH
 - CME provided by NEAETC (Karina Danvers)
 - 5 trainings at FQHCs
 - Approximately 80 individuals trained
- CT DPH: PrEP Provider Website
 - Updated info for easy referral
 - Meetings of PrEP providers
 - PrEP Protocol for Clinicians

Next Steps

- Revise Project STOP protocol with aim to connect more individuals to PrEP services
- Continue trainings for primary care providers
- Develop DPH PrEP Action Plan
- Continue DPH PrEP Working Group