

Example Project Proposal

PrEP Trial Service Provider Evaluation Protocol

Study aim: The aim of the proposed evaluation is to investigate the experiences of WA service providers involved in the WA PrEP trial at the four trial sites: Royal Perth Hospital Sexual Health Clinic, South Terrace Sexual Health Clinic (Fremantle), GP on Beaufort, and M Clinic. Service providers will include doctors, prescribers, peer workers and nurses.

The objectives of the evaluation are:

1. To investigate the short term impacts of the PrEP trial for service providers including changes in workload, establishing trial data collection processes, any knowledge and skills requirements to engage participants, and reorientation of clinic services
2. To determine requirements for offering PrEP to regional or remote trial participants, including the use of telehealth service to liaise and provide support to patients.
3. To identify unanticipated implementation challenges and inform appropriate responses
4. To determine whether attitudes and expectations of service providers related to delivering PrEP have been met or have changed
5. To contribute new insights related to providing PrEP and how this fits into existing clinic services
6. To understand the long term implications of PrEP service provision including any similarities and differences between trial sites.

Ethics approval for this evaluation will be sought from the Curtin University Human Research Ethics Committee (HRECs) before data are collected. A mixed methods design will be implemented involving baseline and follow up online surveys, telephone interviews, a focus group discussion and a knowledge translation workshop. Data will be collected at four time points.

Time point 1: Start of trial (October 2017)	
Baseline Survey	Online survey (15 minutes) created using Qualtrics, collecting qualitative data and some quantitative data. <u>Participants:</u> All identified service providers at trial sites (N = 28) <u>Recruitment:</u> Participants invited via email, reminder emails sent one week later <u>Measuring:</u> Attitudes and expectations of PrEPIT trial, anticipated benefits and challenges of the trial <u>Data collection:</u> Via Qualtrics, data will be downloaded using Excel <u>Data analysis:</u> Raw data will be entered into Excel or SPSS, qualitative elements of the survey will be coded and thematically analysed using appropriate qualitative analysis programs.
Time point 2: After 4 months (February/ March 2018)	
Phone Interviews	Structured phone interviews conducted by Curtin research staff, using a questions guide, approximately 30 minutes <u>Participants:</u> Eight service providers (two per site) purposefully sampled under the following criteria: <ol style="list-style-type: none">a) Has been working at the service since before the implementation of the PrEPIT trial and has not been on leave for an extended period (ie more than four weeks continuously)b) Has been actively involved in the delivery of the PrEPIT trial since implementation

	<p><u>Recruitment:</u> Participants invited via email with request to arrange phone interview time within 4 weeks. Information sheets and consent included in invitation.</p> <p><u>Measuring:</u> Positive and negative impacts on workload and service delivery, experiences of delivering PrEP including to regional and remote participants, adequacy of preparation before the trial, assessment of training/support provided before the trial, any additional training/support needs</p> <p><u>Data collection:</u> Interviewers will make notes, phone interviews will be electronically recorded then transcribed.</p> <p><u>Data analysis:</u> Data from the interview will be coded and analysed using appropriate qualitative analysis programs.</p>
Time point 3: After 9 months (July 2018)	
Focus Group	<p>Focus group discussions conducted by Curtin research staff, approximately 90 minutes.</p> <p><u>Participants:</u> Eight service providers (two per site) purposefully sampled under the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Has been working at the service since before the implementation of the PrEPIT trial and has not been on leave for an extended period (ie more than four weeks continuously) b) Has been actively involved in the delivery of the PrEPIT trial since implementation <p><u>Recruitment:</u> Participants invited via email to attend the focus group, information sheets and consent included in invitation.</p> <p><u>Measuring:</u> The focus groups will allow participants to share experiences of implementation, discuss solutions to address implementation challenges, discuss new insights related to PrEP and how this fits in with clinical services</p> <p><u>Data collection:</u> Focus group facilitators will make notes, recording equipment will be used and discussions transcribed.</p> <p><u>Data analysis:</u> Data from the interview will be coded and analysed using appropriate qualitative analysis programs.</p>
Follow-up Survey	<p>Online survey (15 minutes) created using Qualtrics, collecting qualitative data and some quantitative data.</p> <p><u>Participants:</u> All identified service providers at trial sites (N = 28)</p> <p><u>Recruitment:</u> Participants invited via email, reminder emails sent one week later</p> <p><u>Measuring:</u> Changes in attitudes and expectations of PrEP trial, overall experience of trial, recommended training/support</p> <p><u>Data collection:</u> Via Qualtrics, data will be downloaded using Excel</p> <p><u>Data analysis:</u> Raw data will be entered into Excel or SPSS, qualitative elements of the survey will be coded and analysed using appropriate qualitative analysis programs.</p>
Time point 4: After 16 months (February 2019)	
Knowledge Translation Workshop	<p>Workshop conducted by Curtin research staff and service providers, approximately 120 minutes. The workshop will present preliminary evaluation results and gain consensus on actions to take following the PrEP trial.</p> <p><u>Participants:</u> Eight service providers (two per site) purposefully sampled under the following criteria:</p>

	<p>a) Has been working at the service since before the implementation of the PrEPIT trial and has not been on leave for an extended period (ie more than four weeks continuously)</p> <p>b) Has been actively involved in the delivery of the PrEPIT trial since implementation</p> <p><u>Recruitment:</u> Participants invited via email to attend the workshop, information sheets and consent included in invitation.</p> <p>The workshop will present the barriers and enablers to long term provision of PrEP in metropolitan and regional or remote areas. Service providers will discuss strategies to facilitate uptake of and adherence to PrEP, any training and support needs</p> <p><u>Data collection:</u> Workshop facilitators will make notes, workshop outcomes will be recorded.</p>
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