

HIV Youth Summit for
National Black HIV/AIDS
Awareness Day

**Exploring the Uptake of
PrEP with HBCU Students**

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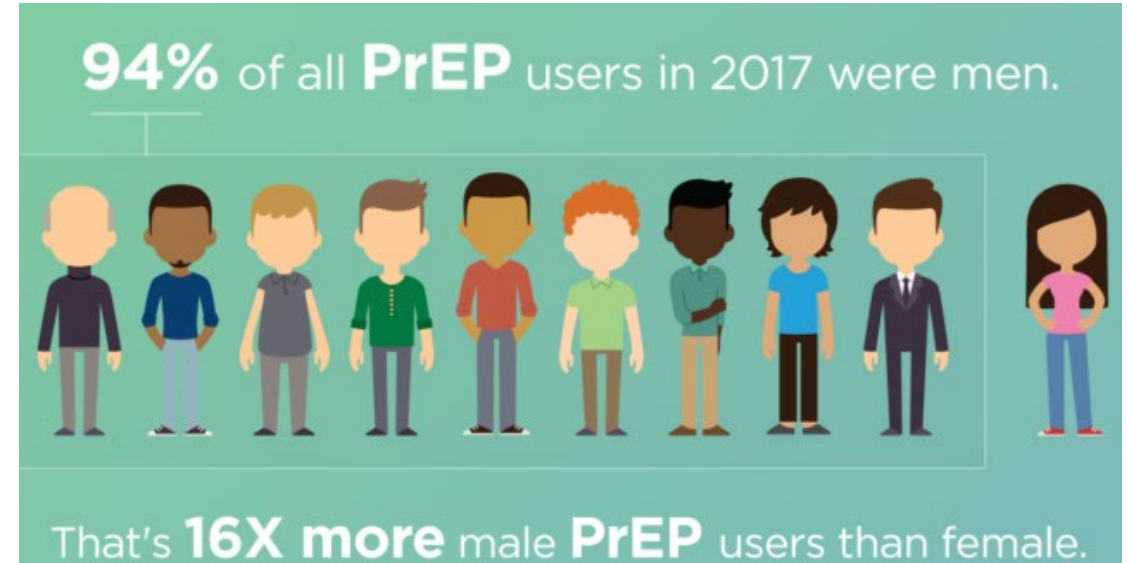
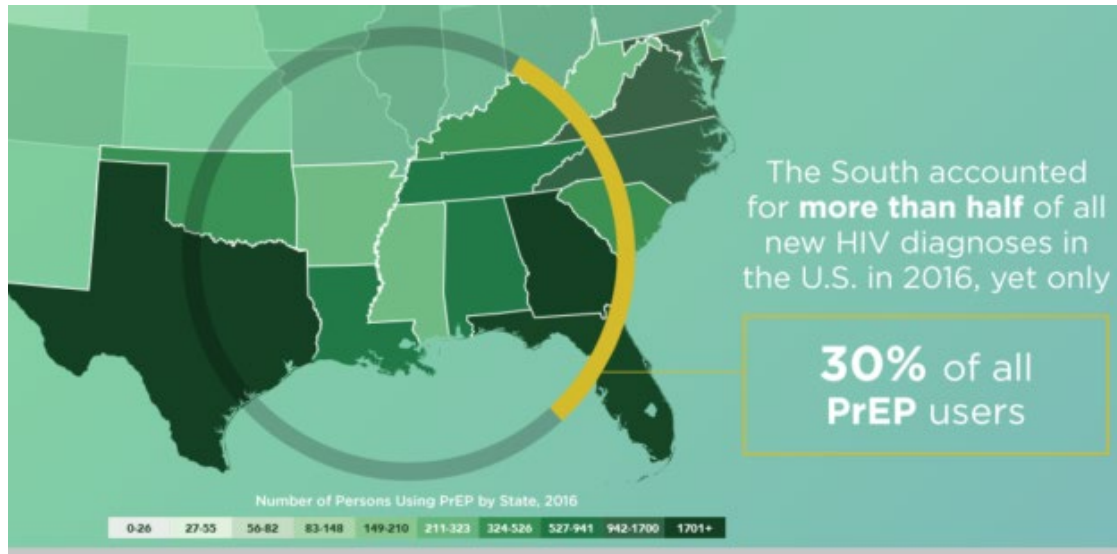
North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State
University

2/15/2022



Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) is a course of HIV drugs taken by HIV-negative people to protect them against HIV infection.





PrEP Uptake in the United States

Purpose of the Study

To generate new knowledge about HBCU students' familiarity and perception of HIV, knowledge of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), student's willingness and acceptability to take PrEP if prescribed by a physician, and barriers and facilitators to the uptake of PrEP.

Specific Aims

1

Describe perceived HIV risk, HIV knowledge, and knowledge of PrEP among students attending NCAT.

2

Identify barriers and facilitators for the uptake of PrEP by college students attending NCAT.

3

Identify ways to introduce new biomedical tools to the student population to reduce the acquisition of HIV.



Methods



Qualitative Research Design

- Conducted focus groups with students attending an HBCU (5)
- Undergraduate and graduate students
- Self identified as heterosexual or men who have sex with men

Recruitment and Data Collection

- Campus events
- Student organizations
- Listserv
- Flyers

Data Analysis

- Transcripts were professionally transcribed
- Thematic analysis



Results

Key Themes

PrEP Knowledge PrEP & Concerns

- “For me, my major concern would be like adverse effects and especially within the black community and how we have distrust when it comes to studies.” (Female participant)
- “But I didn't know if you mess with multiple partners, like, you could still use it. So, that's something that I did not know. I thought it was for people who sleeping with people with HIV.” (Male Participant)

Sexual Decision Making and Relationships

- “Try to help yourself, so in case you do have a partner who doesn't tell you things or wants to be lazy in the situation, you can protect yourself.” (Male Participant)
- "There are some people who don't control their sexual activities, so if you're being forced to have sex, or you don't really know what's going on with your partner, they are not being honest with you, it's just a preventive measure." (Female participant)

PrEP Stigma

- “Okay. But with PrEP, people are HIV negative. So, they don't have HIV. But there can still be some stigma around that.” (Female participant)
- “I'm just saying, because some guys just saying like, I don't want to be on no type of medicine. I'm one of those guys that like, if I got to take medicine, I feel like something is wrong with me. Taking the pill every day, I don't know how I feel about it.” (Male Participant)

Key Themes

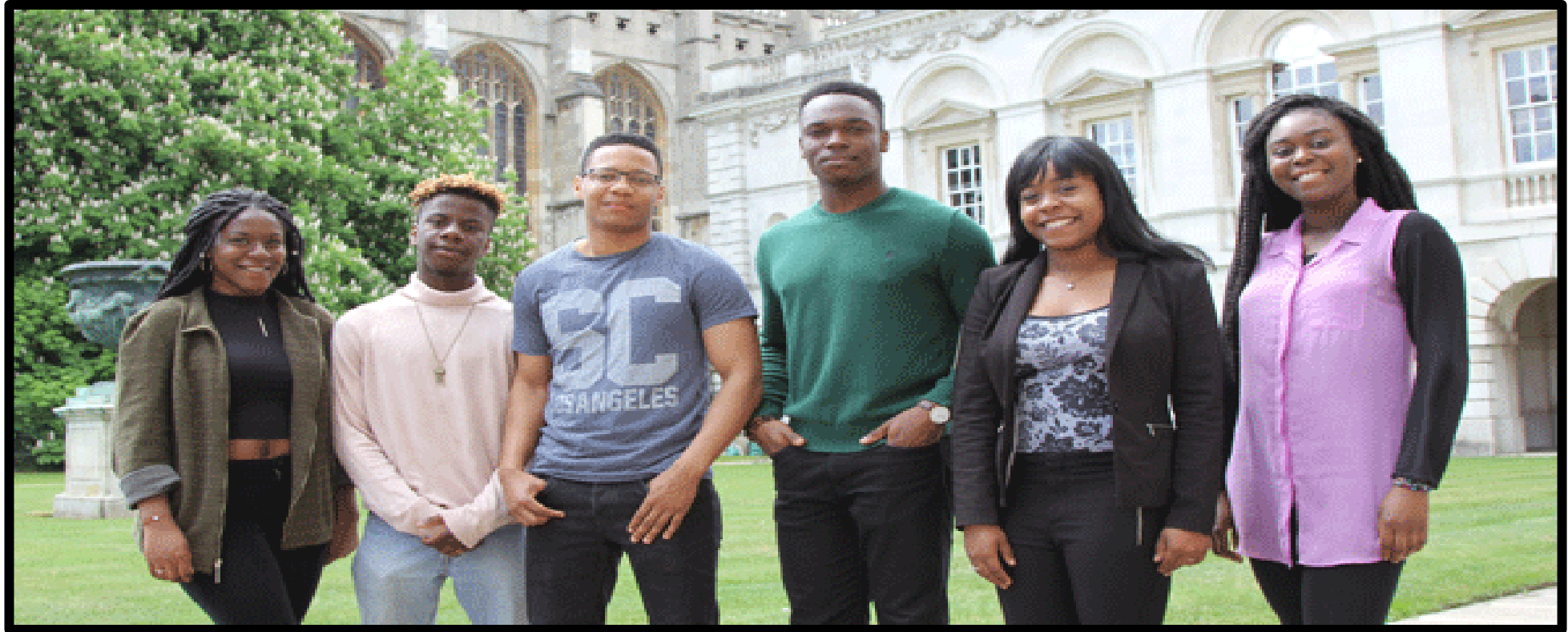
Perceived Sexual Risk Compensation

- “I feel like PrEP would actually make them feel more invincible. There are people that are good on birth control and they're like, might as well not use condoms; I'm not gonna get pregnant.” (Female participant)
- “Your first year of college you don't really know what to expect and I just feel like, you know, it might get a little wild. I just feel like you're the youngest out of everyone, you're impressionable, usually you're at least kind of far way from home and you're gonna do what you want to do and experiment and be risky.” (Male participant)

Anticipated Lifestyle & PrEP

- “I would put it into like my daily routine somehow just like washing your face. You would have to figure out how to squeeze it in there, so you can be consistent”. (Female participant)

Next Steps



Questions

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Thank you!