



**PROTECH**

**Factsheet**



**Switzerland**

**Men who  
have sex  
with men**

# **Inject PrEP to protect?**

The first Pan European study exploring the willingness to use long-acting injectable PrEP to prevent HIV.



**Maastricht University**

# What is the PROTECT Survey?

This online survey was conducted across Europe (Oct 2023 to March 2024) and sought to uncover who may benefit from the innovation that is long-acting injectable PrEP.

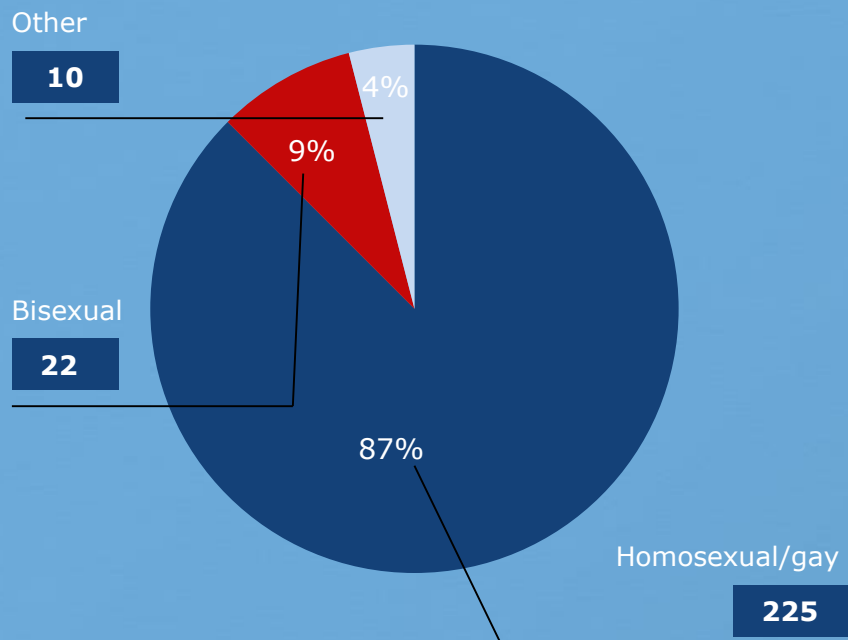
The European Commission (EC) has authorized Apretude ® (cabotegravir long-acting [LA] injectable and tablets) for HIV prevention.

It is important for health services and policy makers to understand who may be interested in taking long-acting injectable PrEP so that resources can be most effectively allocated.

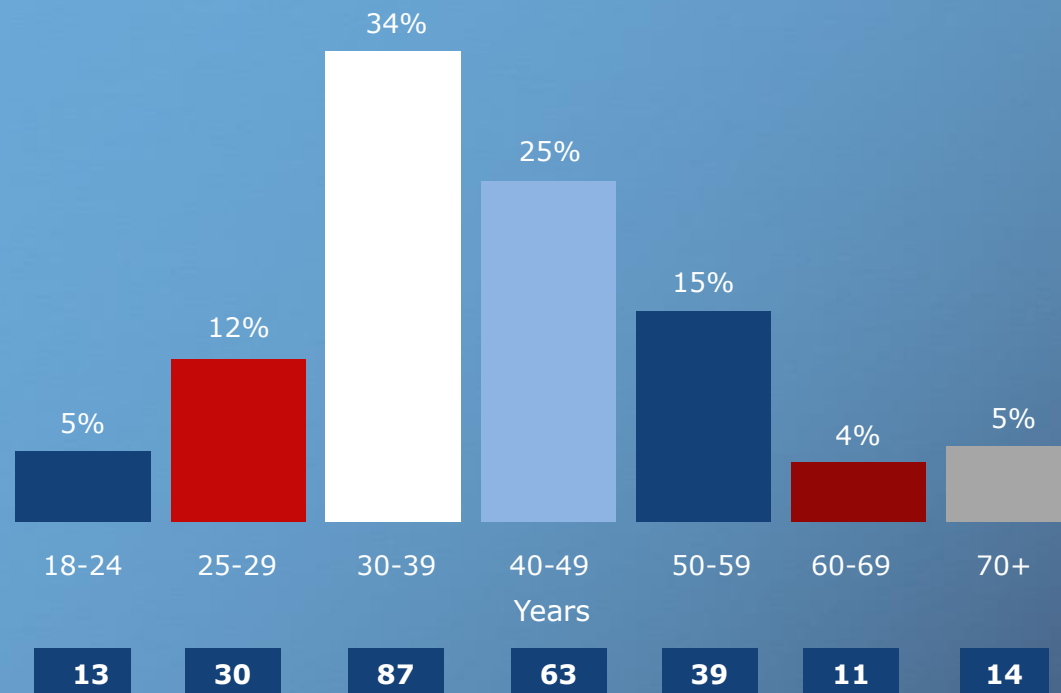
**This factsheet reports on data from the PROTECT Survey collected in Switzerland from men who have sex with men N= 257.**



SEXUAL ORIENTATION

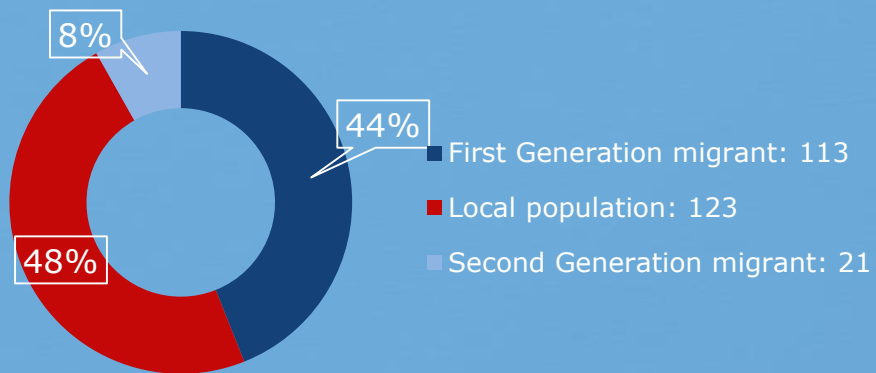


AGE

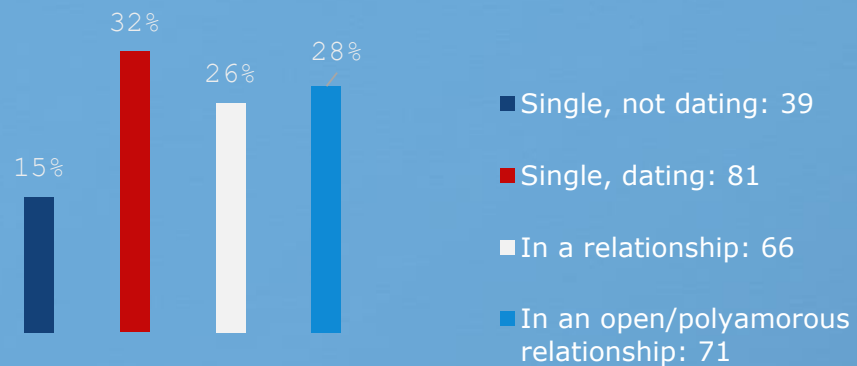




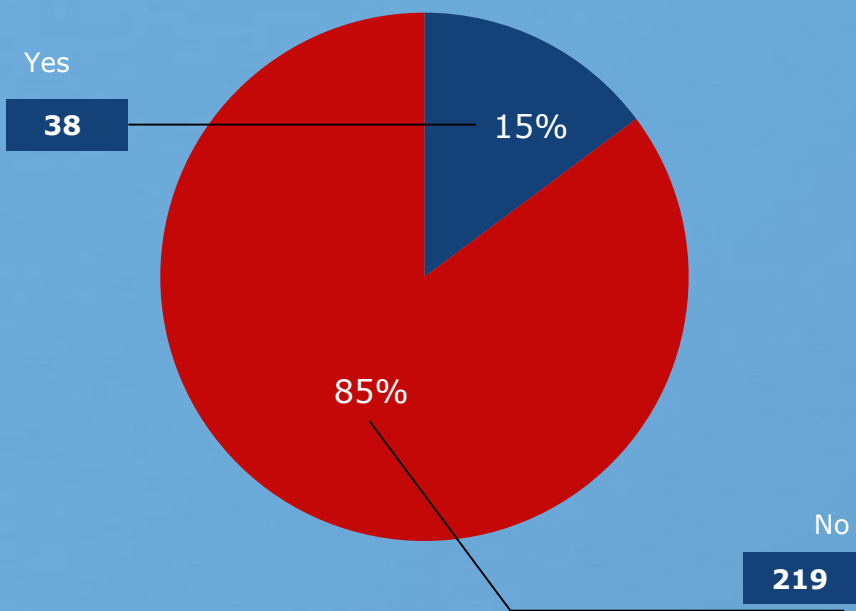
### MIGRANT STATUS



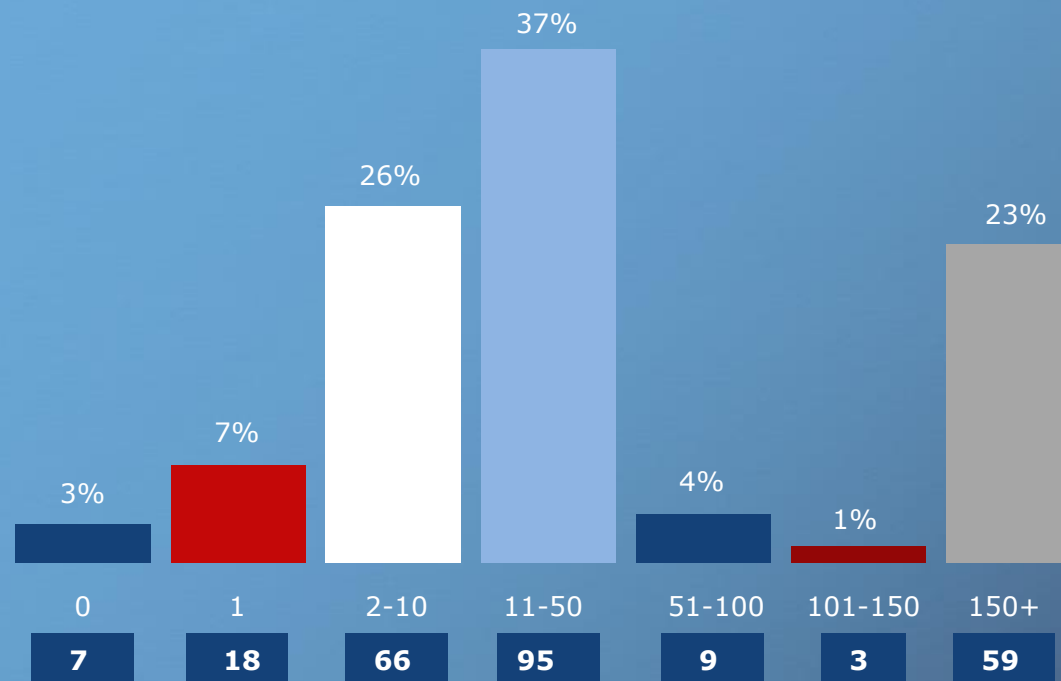
### RELATIONSHIP STATUS



**CHEMSEX (in the past 6 months)**



**NUMBER OF SEXUAL PARTNERS (in the past 6 months)**

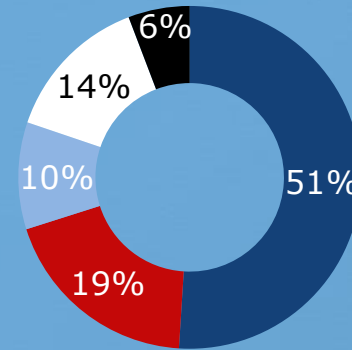




Example of campaign image



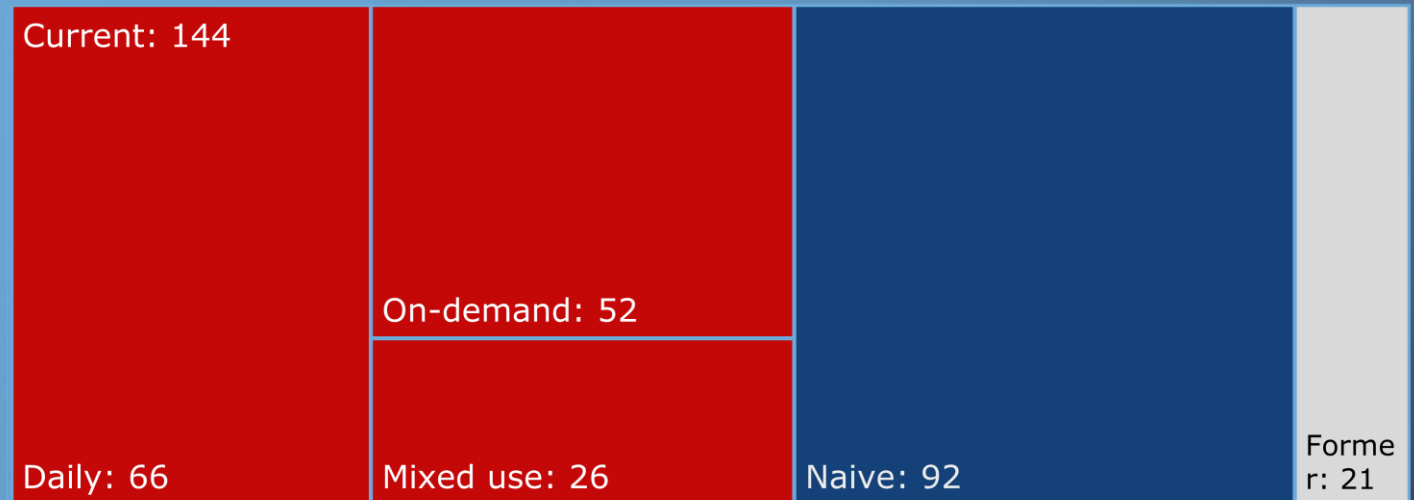
HIV TESTING FREQUENCY



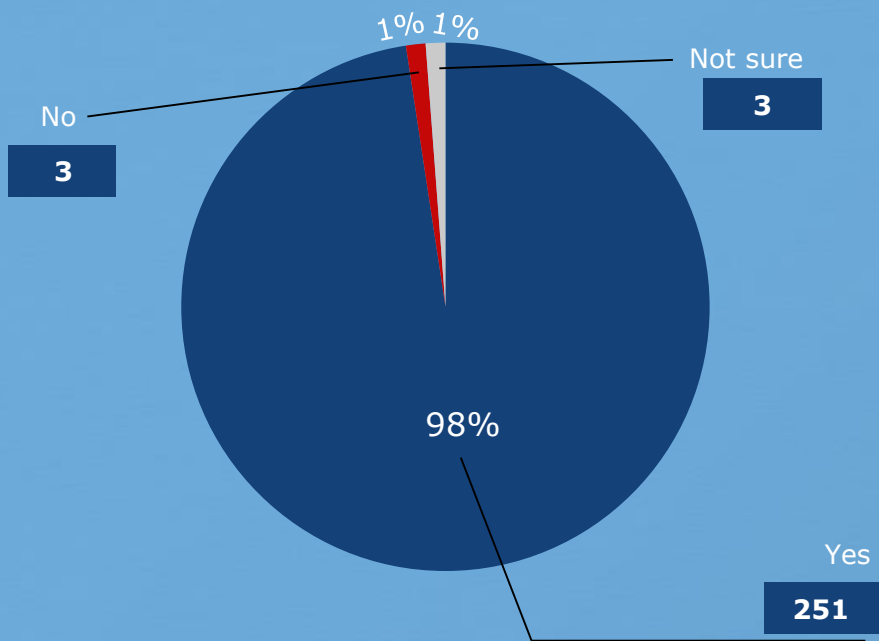
- More than every 6 months: 131
- Every 6 months: 49
- Less than once a year: 26
- Once a year: 36
- Never: 15

ORAL PrEP USE HISTORY & CURRENT PrEP REGIMEN

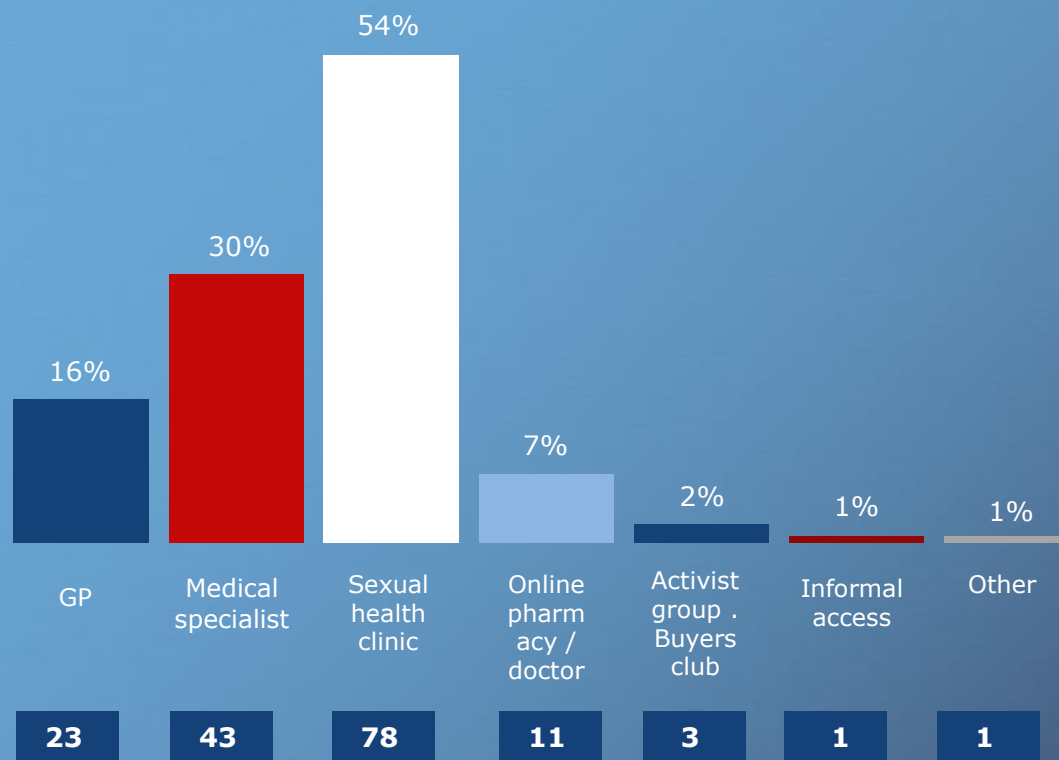
Naive: 92 Current: 144 Former: 21



**AWARENESS OF ORAL PrEP**



**CURRENT PREP USERS – ACCESS TO ORAL PREP**



# Barriers to oral PrEP use

- **30% of the MSM said:**
  - Oral PrEP was too costly (either the pills or the tests associated with PrEP use)
- **16% of the MSM said:**
  - The procedure took too long to obtain oral PrEP when they needed it
- **20% of the MSM said:**
  - Their healthcare provider did not offer oral PrEP to them
- **16% of the MSM said:**
  - There was a waiting list at their healthcare provider for oral PrEP and the service was not available





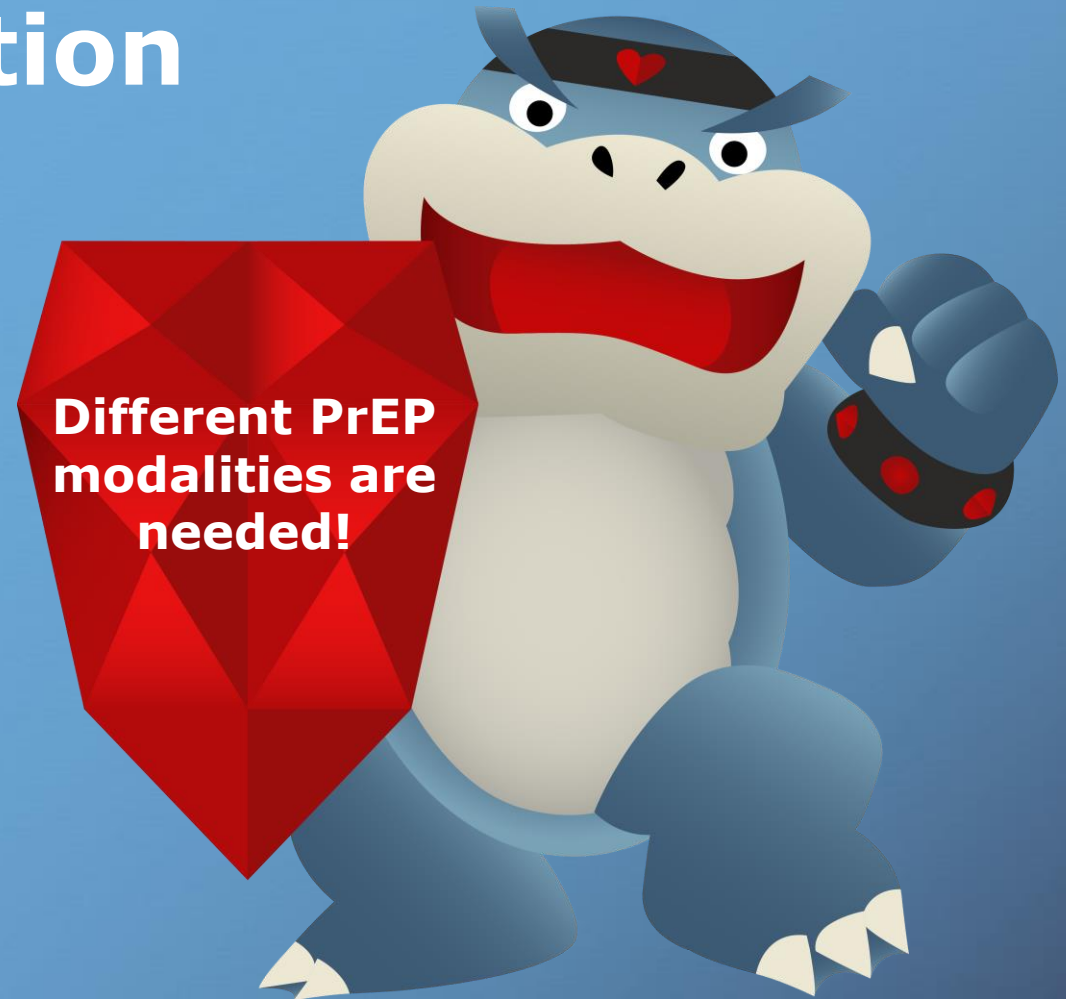
# Long-acting PrEP: interest and intention

**79%**

are interested in using LA-PrEP if it becomes available.

**69%**

intend to use LA-PrEP if it becomes available.



# What LA-PrEP could mean to participants

This word cloud was generated from responses that participants provided to a question asking them what LA-PrEP could mean to them, if it were to become available.



A word cloud on a white background with a blue border. The words are arranged in a vertical stack. From top to bottom: 'easier' (purple), 'sicher' (green), 'easy' (yellow), 'einfach' (green), and 'liberté' (pink). To the left of 'sicher', 'easy', and 'einfach', the word 'confort' is written vertically in purple.

# Summary & Contact Information

## SUMMARY

- Swiss MSM are aware of PrEP and have taken up oral PrEP
- Barriers to starting PrEP still exist
- Interest and intention to use LA-PrEP among MSM in Switzerland is high
- LA-PrEP may provide an opportunity for greater HIV prevention in Switzerland

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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