

Intention to use long-acting PrEP among 4960 heterosexual women and men in 20 European countries -- results from the PROTECT survey



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LONG ACTING PREP AS A NEW MODALITY

Recently, long-acting injectable PrEP for HIV (LA-PrEP), Cabotegravir/Apretude®, has been approved for use in Europe. Understanding who shows interest and intent to use LA-PrEP is pivotal to help ending the HIV epidemic. Even in decreasing epidemics, such as in Europe, all available modalities should be available as HIV prevention options. Thus, it is paramount to investigate who is most interested and can benefit from this modality. So far, the focus of oral PrEP use has been on key populations such as MSM, trans* individuals, sex workers, but overlooking the HIV prevention needs of heterosexual populations, who experience increasing infection numbers in certain jurisdictions.

The Pre-exposure pRophylaxis mOdalities for HIV prevention in the European CommuniTies (PROTECT) Survey was a cross-sectional online survey that collected data in 20 European countries.

This is the analysis of data collected in the UK, Germany, Spain, Italy and France from October 2023 to March 2024 among heterosexuals older than 18 years. A total of 4.960 surveys were completed by heterosexual men (n=2547) and women (n=2413) and included in this analysis.

SAMPLE AND SAMPLING CHARACTERISTICS

- 4960 heterosexual men and women participated in 20 European countries
- Onling sampling occurred between October 2023 and March 2024

For cis-men (N=2,554):

Median age of 30 (IQR 25-38)

Highly educated (66% had a at least bachelor degree)

Mostly non-migrant (75%)

Mostly in a monogamous relationship (61%), with only very few in an open/polyamorous relationship (1%)

Mostly never tested for HIV (91%) and other STIs (61%)

Only 2 current oral PrEP users

For cis-women (N=2,415):

Median age of 29 (IQR 25-38)

Highly educated (74.3% had a at least bachelor degree)

Mostly non-migrant (67%)

Mostly in a monogamous relationship (66%) with only very few in an open/polyamorous relationship (1%)

Mostly never tested for HIV (87%) and other STIs (49%)

Only 1 current oral PrEP users

DETERMINANTS OF INTEREST AND INTENTION TO USE LA-PREP

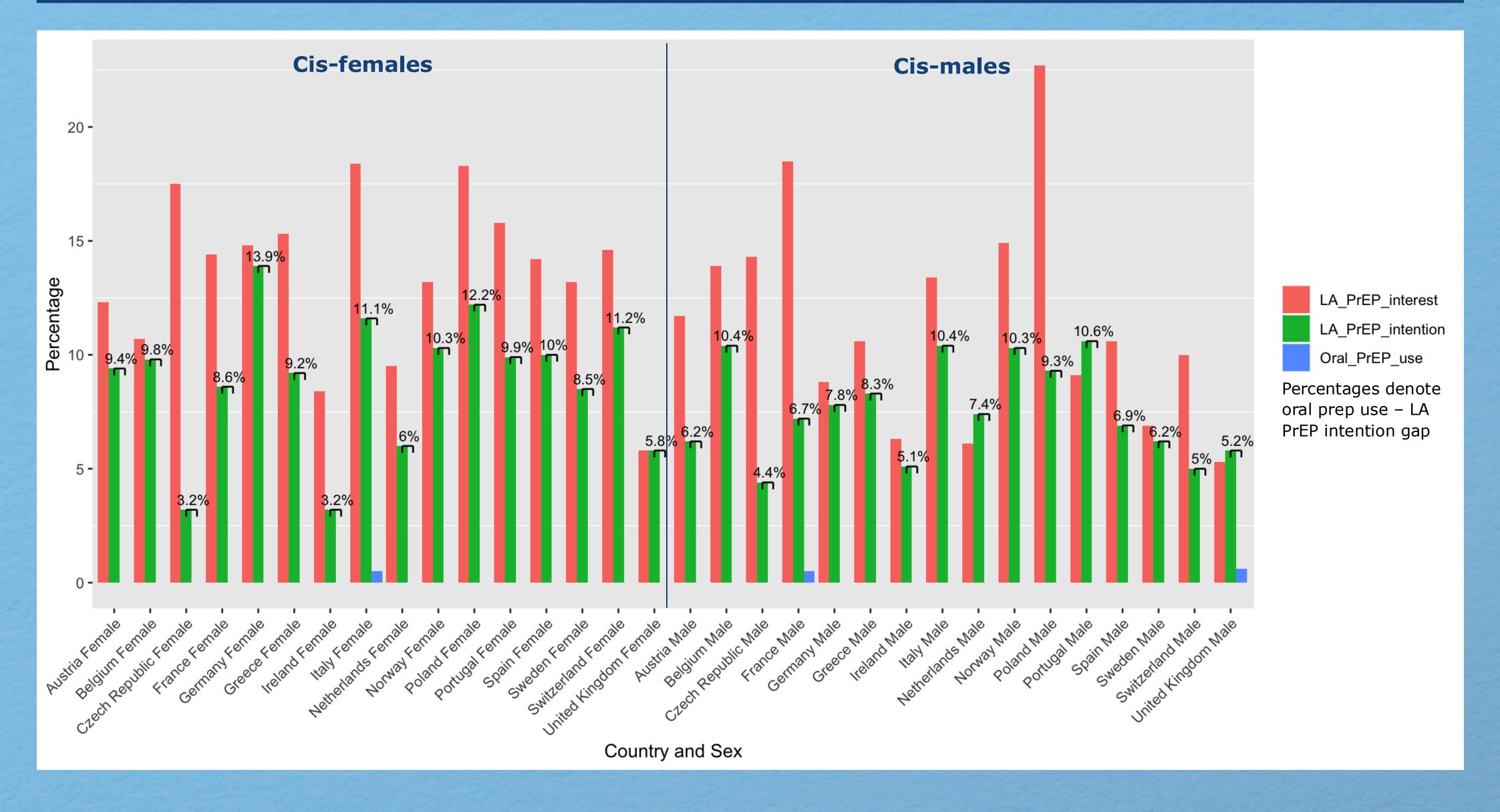
Women				
	aOR	95% CI	p-value	
Employment				
employed(REF)				
other	1.07	.68-1.61	.74	
retired	.25	.01-1.3	.19	
student		1.01-2.03	.04*	
unemployed	1.70	1.02-2.75	.03*	
Population				
local population (REF)				
first gen migrant		1.04-2.02	.02*	
second gen migrant		.85-2.22	.16	
Second gen imgrant	1110	103 2122		
Place of residence				
city (1mil+, REF)				
city (500-999k)	.62	.3998	.04*	
city (100-499k)	.56	.3684	.006**	
town (10-99k)	.67	.44-1.01	.06	
village (<10k)	.5	.2884	.01*	
Condomless anal interco	ourse			
no (REF)				
yes	.61	.33-1.19	.12	
Number of sex partners (past 6 months)				
0 (REF)				
1	.88		.5	
2-10		1.06-2.74	.02*	
11-50	2.1		.28	
51-100	NA	NA	NA (
101-150	NA	NA	NA I	
Worry about HIV infection (recoded)				
No (REF)) (TCC			
Yes	1.65	1.36-1.98	1.0	
Fear of needles	103			
No (REF)				
Yes	.88	.7998	.02*	
Menopause				
No (REF)				
Yes	.55	.26-1.03	.08	

Men					
	aOR	95% CI	p-value		
Population					
local population (REF		1 42 2 02	004*		
	1.28	1.43-2.83 .68-2.24	.004*		
second gen migr	1.20	.00-2.24	.4		
Substance use (lifetime)					
No (REF)					
Yes	1.92	1.13-3.13	.01*		
STI testing frequency					
every 3 months (REF		2 24 260 70			
every 6 months			.01*		
once per year less than once per y.	4.19		.18		
never	3.36				
TICVCI	3.30	.004 02.00	.23		
Transactional sex (paying)					
No (REF)	1 27	01 2 00	4.4		
Yes	1.5/	.91-2.00	.11		
Vaginal intercourse (past 6 months)					
No (Ref)					
Yes	1.84	1.27-2.73	.001***		
Worry about HIV infe	ection (recoded)			
No (REF)	1 40	1 17 1 05	0001***		
Yes	1.48	1.17-1.85	.0001***		
Concern about HIV infection (recoded)					
No (REF)	in eedioi				
Yes	1.42	1.19-1.68	.0001***		

_egend:

denotes p < .05denotes p < .01denotes p < .001

LA-PREP INTEREST AND INTENTION, AND ORAL PREP USE BY COUNTRY



KEY MESSAGE 1: HETEROSEXUAL MEN AND WOMEN SHOWED NEGLIGIBLE HIV AND STI TESTING RATES, AND VIRTUALLY NO ORAL PREP USE

KEY MESSAGE 2: INTEREST AND INTENTION IS CONSIDERABLE (GIVEN THE LARGE NUMBERS OF HETEROSEXUALS), BETWEEN 3-14%, DENOTING

SIGNIFICANT UNMET HIV PREVENTION NEEDS

KEY MESSAGE 3: MAIN DRIVERS ARE FOR WOMEN BEING A STUDENT OR UNEMPLOYED, A MIGRANT AND HAVING 2-10 SEX PARTNERS, WHEREAS FEAR OF NEEDLES AND LIVING IN NON-BIG CITIES (< 1

> MIL) DECREASED INTENTION. FOR MEN MAIN DRIVERS WERE BEING A MIGRANT, SUBSTANCE USE, STI TESTING (BI-ANNUAL), HIV WORRY AND CONCERN, AND

HAVING VAGINAL INTERCOURSE





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