

GIVE PEOPLE WITH HIV THE CHANCE TO END HIV

An online press conference

On **Thursday 27 February 2014**

EATG, Europe's community group for people with HIV, and NAM, publishers of www.aidsmap.com, are launching a Consensus Statement for endorsement by the HIV community on using HIV treatment to prevent the transmission of HIV.

You are invited to an online press conference about the statement.

WHEN?

Date: Thursday 27 February 2014

Time: 14:00-14:30 GMT

15:00-15:30 CET

08:00-08:30 CST

WHY?

HIV treatment (antiretroviral therapy or ART) if taken as prescribed can effectively render people non-infectious.

Reasons this has not already ended the HIV epidemic include lack of access to drugs; no global consensus on who should get them; ignorance about the prevention benefits of ART; stigma against people with HIV; the criminalisation and persecution of groups vulnerable to it; and people's justifiable fear of compulsory or coercive HIV testing and treatment. These issues must be addressed if we are to end HIV.

WHO IS IT FOR?

Worldwide medical and specialist HIV journalists, representatives from relevant civil society organisations and other interested parties.

HOW?

Register now at: <http://view6.workcast.net/register?pak=9269427988617961>.

We will send you a reminder on Wednesday 26 February with instructions on how to login from your computer. The briefing will combine slides with a live audio presentation and opportunities to ask questions in real time.

The briefing will be in English.

INVITING LOCAL JOURNALISTS

We would like your help to invite relevant journalists in your country. If there are any journalists that you would like to invite, please send us their name, publication, email address and telephone number. We will send them the invite and press release. Please send details to emily@packerforbes.com.

AGENDA

14:00-14:05

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Caspar Thomson, Executive Director of NAM

Caspar's involvement in HIV began in 1986 when he was a member of the team that set up London Lighthouse, a residential and support centre for people with HIV. He later went on to become the director of the Red Admiral Project, an HIV counselling service based in West London. Before joining NAM in 2001 Caspar was the deputy director of Stonewall, the UK's human rights organisation seeking equality and justice for lesbians and gay men.

14:05-14:10

THE RIGHT TIME: WHEN TO START HIV TREATMENT AND WHO SHOULD DECIDE?

Brian West, Chair of EATG

Brian has been living with HIV for 30 years and has been involved in HIV activism for the past 20 years. He was involved in setting up the UK CAB, and is a director of Scotland's largest HIV/hep C NGO, Waverley Care. He has been involved with the EATG for 8 years, and is currently Chair of the Board of Directors at EATG.

14:10-14:15

THE GREATEST EPIDEMIC IN MODERN HISTORY: THE VITAL ROLE OF THE HIV COMMUNITY TO HELP END IT

Anna Zakowicz, Co-Chair of the Board of Directors at the Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+)

Anna has been active in communities of people living with HIV, people who use drugs and women affected by HIV for years, holding leadership roles at both GNP+ and EATG, and as an independent expert. She brings extensive experience on treatment access issues facing Eastern Europe and Central Asia to her new role.

14:15-14.20

A CLOSER LOOK AT THE COMMUNITY CONSENSUS STATEMENT AND CALL TO ACTION

Gus Cairns, Editor at NAM

Gus Cairns is one of the three Editors at NAM (www.aidsmap.com), with a special interest in prevention, and also a member of EATG. He has 15 years' experience as a writer and campaigner on HIV issues. He is a member of the Steering Committee of the Global Forum for MSM and HIV and the Writing Group of the British HIV Association (BHIVA) treatment guidelines, and former patient rep on BHIVA's Executive Committee. He is co-chair of the PROUD trial, a study using HIV drugs to prevent HIV. He is also a qualified psychotherapist and counsellor.

14:20-14:30

Q&A

SPONSORSHIP STATEMENT

This online webinar has been independently developed by EATG and NAM, and was made possible partly thanks to sponsorship from Gilead Sciences Europe, which has had no control or input into the structure or the content of the initiative. NAM's wider New HIV Prevention Options Network has received support from Gilead Sciences Europe, ViiV Healthcare and Merck & Co., Inc. Again, these funders have had no control or input into the content of the project.