

HIV Prevention among Transgender People: Advances and Challenges

Sofitel Legend The Grand, Oudezijds Voorburgwal 197, 1012 EX Amsterdam

9:00 – 9:30	Registration
9:30 – 9:45	Welcome by Dr. Kai Jonas (Maastricht University) & Kees Hogetoorn (Sofitel)
9:45 – 10:30	SESSION 1 (Chair: Kai Jonas) HIV prevalence in transgender individuals: An update <i>Dr. Sarah Stutterheim & Mart van Dijk</i> Challenging assumptions of gender binaries in the HIV response in low and middle income countries <i>Dr. Stefan Baral</i> Linkages between substance use and HIV among adult and young transgender women in San Francisco <i>Dr. Glenn-Milo Santos</i>
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 – 12:00	SESSION 2 (Chair: Annelies van Dijk) HIV among transwomen in Thailand: Challenges and opportunities <i>Dr. Thomas Guadamuz</i> TRANScend: Introduction of TransHealth in metro Manila, Philippines <i>Dr. Ronivin Garcia Pagtakhan</i> Amsterdam's first trans-led gender clinic <i>Dinah de Riquet-Bons</i> HIV and healthcare for transgender sex workers: A holistic approach in Amsterdam <i>Petra Willemsteijn</i>
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch
13:00 – 14:00	SESSION 3 (Chair: Dr. Thomas Guadamuz) Panel discussion with Samira Hakim (Transgender Network Nederland), Judith van Schuylenbergh (Ghent University Hospital), Thierry Schaffauser (Syndicat du TRAvail Sexuel, France)
14:00 – 14:30	Coffee break
14:30 – 15:15	SESSION 4 (Chair: Dinah de Riquet-Bons) Transforming trauma: Promoting resilience through gender-affirming HIV prevention and care <i>Dr. Jae Sevelius</i> Use of PrEP by transgender persons: Experience from a private LGBT clinic in Bangkok, Thailand <i>Dr. Natthakhet Yaemim</i> Transgender persons, HIV and prevention, including PrEP, in the Netherlands: An update <i>Elske Hoornenborg</i>
15:15 – 15:30	Conclusion by Dr. Sarah Stutterheim (Maastricht University) & Heleen Driessen (P&G292)

Organizing committee: Maastricht University, P&G292/HVO Querido, Transgender Network Nederland, Proud, TransUnited
Sponsors: AidsFonds, Sofitel Legend the Grand, Universiteitsfonds Limburg

HIV Prevention among Transgender People: Advances and Challenges

Detailed Program

Location:

*Sofitel Legend The Grand
Oudezijds Voorburgwal 197
1012 EX Amsterdam*

REGISTRATION

9:00 – 9:30

WELCOME

9:30 – 9:45

Dr. Kai Jonas

Associate Professor, Department of Work and Social Psychology, Maastricht University, the Netherlands

Kees Hogetoorn

Director of Sales and Marketing, Sofitel Legend The Grand, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

SESSION 1 (Chair: Kai Jonas)

9:45 – 10:30

HIV prevalence in transgender individuals: An update

Dr. Sarah Stutterheim

Assistant Professor, Department of Work and Social Psychology, Maastricht University, the Netherlands

Mart van Dijk

PhD Candidate, Department of Work and Social Psychology, Maastricht University, the Netherlands

In this presentation, we provide an update on the current state of knowledge regarding HIV prevalence among transgender individuals. We report on a recent meta-analysis investigating the worldwide prevalence of HIV among transwomen and transmen. We also look at prevalence rates in various regions.

Challenging assumptions of gender binaries in the HIV response in low and middle income countries

Dr. Stefan Baral

Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Department of International Health, John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland, USA

In 2018, the specific HIV prevention and treatment needs of transgender women remain understudied across settings where HIV epidemics are more broadly generalized including in countries across Sub-Saharan Africa. However, where data are available, transgender women are known to be disproportionately impacted by HIV compared to cisgender men who have sex with men (cis-MSM) and other cis-men. Moreover, patterns of mental health and stigma are distinct necessitating consideration of gender in the implementation of HIV prevention and treatment interventions. While there is a lot yet to learn, there is already enough information to act to ensure that the specific HIV prevention and treatment needs of transgender women are comprehensively addressed.

Linkages between substance use and HIV among adult and young transgender women in San Francisco
Dr. Glenn-Milo Santos

*Assistant Professor, Department of Community Health Systems, School of Nursing, University of California San Francisco, USA
Senior Research Scientist, Substance Use Research Unit, Center for Public Health Research Branch, San Francisco Department of Public Health, USA*

Alcohol and substance use can have negative health consequences among both HIV-positive and -negative individuals, and are associated with behaviors that facilitate HIV transmission and acquisition. However, the overlaps between substance use and HIV risk among transgender women remains understudied, despite the disproportionate prevalence of HIV in this population. This talk will highlight the associations between HIV and substance use among adult and young transgender women in the San Francisco Bay Area.

SESSION 2 (Chair: Petra Willemsteijn)

11:00 – 12:00

HIV among transwomen in Thailand: Challenges and opportunities

Dr. Thomas Guadamuz

Assistant Professor, Mahidol University Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Nakhon Pathom, Thailand

Transwomen are disproportionately affected by HIV in Thailand and throughout Southeast Asia. Psycho-social risk factors, poor access to trans-specific healthcare and trans-related social stigma are key determinants to HIV infection. Using recently collected empirical data, this talk will update these issues in Thailand and discuss the challenges and opportunities for preventive interventions.

TRANScend: Introduction of TransHealth in metro Manila, Philippines

Dr. Ronivin Garcia Pagtakhan

Executive Director/Founder, LoveYourself Inc., Manila, the Philippines

TRANScend is a program developed by LoveYourself in partnership with ISEAN, HIVOS and QC Health Department, that addresses the sexual and wellness needs of Transgender people in the Philippines. This program started with the establishment of the first trans health clinic in the Philippines providing HIV/STI testing, transitioning counselling, HRT counselling and prescriptions, and treatment for HIV and HIV-TB.

Amsterdam's first trans-led gender clinic

Dinah de Riquet-Bons

Board member, confidential person, and coordinator of sex workers and the transcommunity program, Proud Union for Dutch Sex Workers, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Board member, HIV Association of the Netherlands, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Ms. de Riquet-Bons will discuss Amsterdam's first trans-led gender clinic, which offers HIV testing and counselling, and help specific to the needs of trans people living with HIV. Focus is placed on why transgender led health care and peer-to-peer professional and mental health care works well for transgender communities.

HIV and healthcare for transgender sex workers: A holistic approach in Amsterdam

Annelies van Dijk

Coordinator of Medical Care, Prostitution and Health Care, P&G292, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

After years of discussion, the Netherlands legalized prostitution in 2000 to increase safer and healthier work conditions. In 2008, a specialized care facility for sex workers, the Prostitution and Health Centre (P&G292), opened. The aim of P&G292 is to provide sexual health care for TSW, FSW, and MSW at a clinic located near the Red Light District. In addition to sexual health, social services are also provided at P&G292. Since the start, the prostitution and health centre has reached a significant proportion of sex workers in Amsterdam.

SESSION 3 (Chair: Dr. Thomas Guadamuz)

13:00 – 14:00

Panel discussion on the successes and challenges of HIV prevention among transgender individuals with:

- *Samira Hakim*, Transgender Network Nederland, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- *Judith van Schuylenbergh*, Center for Sexology and Gender, Ghent University Hospital, Ghent, Belgium
- *Thierry Schaffauser*, Syndicat du TRAvail Sexuel, Paris, France

SESSION 4 (Chair: Dinah de Riquet-Bons)

14:30 – 15:15

Transforming trauma: Promoting resilience through gender-affirming HIV prevention and care

Dr. Jae Sevelius

Associate Professor, Division of Prevention Sciences, Center of Excellence for Transgender Health, Department of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco, USA

Building on the Models of Gender Affirmation and Healthcare Empowerment, Dr. Sevelius will discuss resiliency factors and trauma-informed approaches to care that mediate the negative effect of trauma and discrimination on health outcomes among transgender people.

Use of PrEP by transgender persons: Experience from a private LGBT clinic in Bangkok, Thailand

Dr. Natthakhet Yaemim

Medical Director & Research Physician, Pulse Clinic, Bangkok, Thailand

Despite low costs (1\$/day), PrEP uptake for transwomen and transgender sex workers in Bangkok is suboptimal and riddled with a number of challenges. Dr. Yaemim will report on a client sample from a private LGBT clinic in Bangkok, and focus especially on issues of adherence and transactional sex.

Transgender persons, HIV and prevention, including PrEP, in the Netherlands: An update

Elske Hoornenborg

Internist and Infectiologist, Projectleader Amsterdam PrEP project (AMPrEP), Department of Infectious Diseases Research and Prevention and STI clinic, Municipal Health Services, Amsterdam

Dr. Hoornenborg will give an update of HIV prevalence among transgender people in the Netherlands. She will describe prevention interventions, including PrEP, and its availability and uptake in the Netherlands.

CONCLUSION

15:15 – 15:30

Sarah Stutterheim

Assistant Professor, Department of Work and Social Psychology, Maastricht University, the Netherlands

Heleen Driessen

Manager Prostitution & Health, P&G292, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

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