HIV Prevention With PrEP

**Introduction**

In this audio excerpt from Science Friday, Buzzfeed’s Azeen Ghoraysh discusses a Dutch study on HIV infection rates and how the research highlights the slow adoption of PrEP in European countries.  According to the World Health Organization (WHO), in 2014 approximately 2 million people worldwide became newly infected with HIV[[1]](#footnote-1), in spite of the fact that PrEP has been available since 2010.[[2]](#footnote-2)

**Vocabulary**

* epidemic- a widespread occurrence of a disease among a specific population.
* HIV- Human Immunodeficiency Virus
* PrEP- According to the CDC, “pre-exposure prophylaxis (or PrEP) is when people at very high risk for HIV take HIV medicines daily to lower their chances of getting infected.”[[3]](#footnote-3)

**Note-worthy**

*Write down information from the excerpt and article that you want for your discussion or writing piece.*

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**Discussion Questions**

*Use the boxes below to record thoughts and interesting ideas during your group discussion.*

What were researchers in the Netherlands trying to determine in their study? Why?

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What do you think is still getting in the way of PrEP adoption in Europe?

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What further research should be conducted that relates to this study? Why?

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Think about your community. What are its current efforts to inform the public of HIV, other sexually transmitted infections, and methods of prevention/treatment? Do you believe those efforts are effective? Why or why not?

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GENERATE IDEAS: Now that these findings have been released, what should the global community do to educate people about and/or promote HIV prevention methods like PrEP?

* *Be sure to discuss how to target different populations and locations (think different ages, gender, sexuality, countries, ethnic, and religious groups).*

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**Writing Prompt**

According to Buzzfeed’s Virginia Hughes, *“...researchers found that an estimated 71 percent of HIV transmissions came from men who had not been diagnosed…*”[[4]](#footnote-4) In light of this and findings discussed in the Science Friday excerpt, discuss reasons the global community should incorporate HIV prevention methods like PrEP into their global policy/education reform.  Suggest ways to address these needs.

*In your response be sure to include:*

* *evidence/examples from the audio clip and articles.*
* *references to ideas generated in your discussion.*

1. "HIV/AIDS." *World Health Organization Media Centre*. World Health Organization, Nov. 2015. Web: http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs360/en/. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Glazek, Christopher. "Why Is No One On the First Treatment To Prevent H.I.V.?" The New Yorker, 30 Sept. 2013. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. "PrEP." *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 14 Dec. 2015. Web: http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/basics/prep.html. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Hughes, Viginia. "[Dutch Study: Most New HIV Infections Could Be Prevented With Pill](http://www.buzzfeed.com/virginiahughes/dutch-study-of-prep)." *BuzzFeed*. N.p., 6 Jan. 2016. Web: http://www.buzzfeed.com/virginiahughes/dutch-study-of-prep. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)