

Achieving the EHE Goal in the U.S. South:

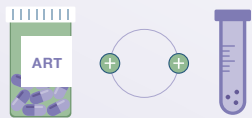
Modeling Hypothetical Improvements in the Expansion of ART and PrEP

New research from CAMP, led by the University of Washington's Dr. Deven Hamilton, takes a closer look at HIV in the Southern U.S. and what efforts are needed to reach the Ending the HIV Epidemic goals for reduced HIV incidence in the region.

Findings published in [PLOS One](#)¹ and [BMC Public Health](#)² dig into EHE efforts in the South, evaluating the impact of hypothetical improvements in ART as well as estimating the potential impact of expanding PrEP coverage among adults and adolescents — all with an eye toward achieving federal EHE goals.

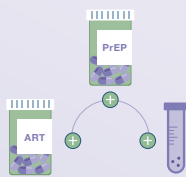
Federal EHE goals in the near term can be achieved in the South, but efforts must be made to expand ART and PrEP use.

To meet set goals, the region would need:



ART increased to 95% of PLWH with 89% full viral suppression.

OR



ART increased to 90% of PLWH with 84% full viral suppression AND significant PrEP coverage expansion.

Uniquely, this work looks at heterosexual populations in addition to the MSM population, finding:



To reduce disparities in HIV incidence, efforts must be made to increase PrEP uptake among minority women.



Tackling the epidemic among MSM is essential for ALL incidence reduction.

PrEP among adolescents at increased risk for acquiring HIV should remain a public health priority:



While findings from this work indicate that targeting PrEP to adolescents would not significantly contribute to reaching EHE incidence goals, improving access and uptake of PrEP among adolescents at increased risk for acquiring HIV should remain a public health priority.

Overall, uniform expansion of ART and PrEP across the entire population would lead to reductions in incidence — including significant reductions in HIV incidence among Non-Hispanic Black MSM and women reducing racial disparities.

* ART: Antiretroviral therapy; PLWH: People Living with HIV; MSM: Men who Have Sex with Men; PrEP: Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis

¹ Hamilton DT, Wang LY, Hoover KW, Smith DK, Delaney KP, Li J, et al. (2023) Potential contribution of PrEP uptake by adolescents 15–17 years old to achieving the “Ending the HIV Epidemic” incidence reduction goals in the US South. *PLoS ONE* 18(11): e0288588. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0288588>

² Hamilton, D.T., Hoover, K.W., Smith, D.K. et al. Achieving the “Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S.” incidence reduction goals among at-risk populations in the South. *BMC Public Health* 23, 716 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-023-15563-5>

