The Case for an HIV Cure & How to Get There: Launching the HIV Cure Africa Acceleration Partnership (HCAAP)

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Amidst a changing funding landscape, growing population, shifting health priorities, and unforeseen natural and man-made calamities, how can we sustain gains and accelerate progress toward ending the HIV epidemic?
Why Africa?

Estimated ~42 million individuals will live with HIV by 2030:
• Sub-Saharan Africa accounts for 15% of the global population, but 68% of people living with HIV and 57% of new infections

Long-term stability of existing HIV/AIDS programs uncertain:
• Youth bulge
• Global funding leveling
• Domestic funding increasing, but insufficient

Action to address HIV cure gaps in Africa could have significant impact on:
• HIV efforts in other resource-limited settings
• Other diseases (COVID-19)

*UNAIDS, AIDSinfo, https://aidsinfo.unaids.org/*
The Problem

**Existing System**

- No single industry, country, agency, or academic institution can develop an HIV cure that will generate significant impact
- Despite progress at the global level (normative and potential regulatory frameworks), bidirectional processes to formally link community-level input to R&D actors (vertical linkages) and other similar communities (horizontal linkages) are weak or non-existent
- Public and private research efforts are often not shared until very late in the development process

**Compounding Factors**

- Disproportionate disease burden, limited available resources, and unique demographic challenges

**Critical Gaps to Avoid**

- Delays in product introduction, acceptance, and uptake of a product by communities and individuals
- Missed opportunities to design a culturally-appropriate HIV cure and to ensure awareness
- Future innovation not informed by community input
Building on Lesson Learnt from PrEP

11 years from clinical trials to policy adoption

- **2005**: Clinical trials on PrEP begin
- **2010-2011**: iPrEx, Partners PrEP & later TDF2 prove the efficacy of PrEP for HIV prevention
- **2012**: FDA approves TDF/FTC for use to prevent acquisition of HIV
- **2016**: Zambia integrates PrEP into the HIV prevention and treatment guidelines

WHO issues guidance on oral PrEP for discordant couples, men & TG women who have sex with men.
Building on Lesson Learnt from PrEP

11 years from clinical trials to policy adoption
4 years for rollout and implementation

- Limited data on PrEP uptake vs target
- Available data limited to research and demonstration projects, and specific population groups (i.e., key populations)
- Low awareness of (29.7%) and willingness (64.4%) to take PrEP among MSM*
- HIV products can only be as effective as their reach and adoption

HCAAP Story to Date

2013: Building on past efforts
Sunnylands Summit, leading to $100M from NIH

2016/2018: Recognition of need to focus
IAS/International AIDS Conference Cure Event

Q1/Q2 2019: Sunnylands II
Sunnylands Summit, “The Path Toward Ending HIV” - Feb 2019: Convened 30 leaders in HIV cure space to establish a path forward for discovery of an HIV cure and to define TPP characteristics
Formation of HCAAP/TPP Working Groups - May 2019

Q3/Q4 2019: Building momentum
Grand Challenges Meeting, Ethiopia - October 2019
ICASA Side Event, “Laying the Foundation for an HIV Cure in Africa”, Rwanda - December 2019: Sensitize stakeholders and strengthen engagement in Africa for HIV cure, creation of TPPs, and HCAAP

2020: HCAAP launch
Delphi TPP exercise - April 2020: Broad consultation and consensus on TPP attributes
Publication of HCAAP and TPP concepts in *The Lancet HIV* – December 2020
Launch of HCAAP – Q1 2021
HCAAP Theory of Change

A platform to promote dialogue among key stakeholders to accelerate the availability and delivery of an HIV cure

How HCAAP will achieve its vision

1. Inform TPP and cure development processes, access, and rollout through coordinated stakeholder insight and evaluation

2. Drive collaboration between cure stakeholders, while actively identifying new partners that can bring novel approaches to existing cure strategies

Accelerate progress towards a cure for HIV in Africa
HCAAP Stakeholders

Community/Non-Governmental Organizations
- International AIDS Society (IAS)
- Community Advisory Boards
- Aidsfonds/NL4Cure
- AmfAR
- AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition (AVAC)
- Sidaction
- Patient Advocacy Alliance
- International Treatment Preparedness Coalition
- Joint Adherent Brothers & Sisters Against AIDS
- CHAI

Regulators
- UNAIDS
- UNITAID

International Organizations
- INfectious Diseases Institute (IDI)
- CIDRZ
- Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation
- Pediatric Adolescent Treatment Africa
- Ministries of Health
- Rwanda Biomedical Center
- Africa Health Research Institute

Pharmaceutical Companies (Originators)
- Merck
- ViiV/GSK
- Gilead
- J&J/Janssen
- Sanofi-Aventis

Pharmaceutical Companies (Generics)
- Viatris

African Union and other African Organizations
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Giving Pledge Philanthropy
- Wellcome Trust
- Aidsfonds
- European Commission

Philanthropy
- National Institutes of Health (NIH)
- National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) /Martin Delaney Collaboratories for HIV Cure Research
- International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI)
- Sub-Saharan African Network for TB/HIV Research Excellence (SANTHE)
- French National Agency for AIDS Research (ANRS)
## HCAAP Roadmap to a Cure

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<th>Vision/Vision Pathway</th>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Objectives</th>
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| Accelerate progress towards a cure for HIV in Africa | Engage and educate stakeholders to promote rapid uptake of products, including ones that may initially be only partially effective | 1. Facilitate collaboration between a multi-disciplinary group of stakeholders working on an HIV cure to accelerate development and delivery of a product for resource-limited settings  
2. Ensure that PLHIV and communities from resource-limited settings participate in the development of target product profiles (TPPs), rollout planning, and broader education and awareness activities  
3. Establish forward-thinking and flexible platform connecting all stakeholders, managed by a sustainable secretariat |

### Single shot cure

### Cure modalities

### Broadly neutralizing antibodies

### Long-acting treatments
Long Term Vision

• Ensure *community’s voice* is heard by all relevant stakeholders

• Convene people living with HIV and broader HIV community in early development of a cure to accelerate *education, acceptance, and adoption*

• Prompt efforts to extend the reach of limited financial, advocacy, and *workforce resources* for HIV cure, draw on underutilized communities and stakeholders to *lead the HIV response*, and prioritize new workflows to *sustain momentum*

• Leverage this platform to support *inclusive dialogue for innovations* that address health disparities in LMIC’s
  • Provide *actionable best practices* and organizational backbone needed to anticipate product development and deployment challenges for other diseases
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