Tracking Resources Supporting Multipurpose Prevention Technologies: Investments to Meet the Sexual and Reproductive Health Needs of Women Worldwide

Presented at HVR4P, 17-21 October 2016

Kathryn Stewart (IMPT), Emily Donaldson (AVAC), Laura Lazar (AVAC)

BACKGROUND

Multipurpose prevention technologies (MPTs) are an innovative class of products that deliver varied combinations of HIV prevention, other STI prevention, and contraception simultaneously. With 85 million unintended pregnancies and 2 million new cases of HIV each year, this evolving area of research aims to equip women with user-friendly products that provide more comprehensive protection. Facilitated strategic coordination of resources is required to continue the MPT field's forward momentum and equip women with acceptable and accessible products by 2025. To this end, the Initiative for MPTs (IMPT) monitors investment annually to guide investment priorities and identify gaps for the field.

METHODS

Data on total investments in the MPT field were compiled and analyzed for 2014, including data from a 2014 HIV prevention, treatment and care research and development (R&D) investment survey conducted by the Resource Tracking for HIV Prevention R&D Working Group, data from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Grants Database, and follow up with organizations from the MPT Product Development Database and IMPT Network of Experts (NoE). The total calculation covers MPT R&D, including products officially named ‘MPTs’ and R&D related to multiple sexual and reproductive health (SRH) outcomes. Investments in the IMPT and other MPT-related activities were also included.

RESULTS

There were 31.7 million USD invested in the MPT field in 2014, a 38.6% increase from 2013. In 2015, investment rose to 47.7 million USD. More than half comes from the U.S. public sector (59% in 2014 and 74% in 2015), most notably from the NIH and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). U.S. investment, including the public sector, private foundations, and other investors, accounts for over 95% of the 2014 total and 74% of the 2015 total. Notably, this total does not include social capital investment, including in-kind hours contributed by IMPT technical advisors and the NoE.

CONCLUSION

The MPT field faces a myriad of basic scientific questions and challenges regarding formulation, regulatory requirements, market issues, acceptability, adherence and, funding. To address these considerable challenges and advance the development of MPTs, donor collaboration and coordination on investment decisions is essential. With the recent positive results of a proof-of-concept trial of the vaginal diphtheria ring and nearly a dozen innovative MPTs currently in clinical trials, tracking resources towards MPT development is critical to ensuring challenges are overcome and questions are answered to address the SRH needs of women worldwide.

AVAC is an international non-profit organization that uses education, policy analysis, advocacy, community mobilization and a network of global collaborations to accelerate the end of the epidemic and global delivery of biomedical HIV prevention options as part of a comprehensive response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

Support for this work was provided by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under the terms of Cooperative Agreement No. AID-OAA-A-10-00045. The contents of this poster are the responsibility of the IMPT and the Public Health Institute (PHI) and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government. For questions or comments, please contact: IMPT@camh-health.org. The IMPT Secretariat is a project of CAMH Health, an organization dedicated to women's reproductive health and empowerment based in Folsom, CA. USAID CAMH Health is housed at PHI.