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**TRANSCRIPT - GR 06 11 21 Ending the HIV Epidemic U U PrEP and the Policies Necessary to Make It All Work Kate McManus**

00:10:11.730 --> 00:10:24.870

RAIJ: In one yeah have an ott okay Okay, thank you for that wonderful introduction and I have to say it's great to be here with some of you in person and some of you over zoom.

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00:10:25.290 --> 00:10:35.820

RAIJ: I have to say, when I was a resident I was sitting in your seats wondering what could I ever give a grand rounds about and talk about for an hour now I could probably talk about HIV and health policy for four hours.

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00:10:36.150 --> 00:10:49.020

RAIJ: But I have whittled it down to one hour, so we will only be here for one hour and i've been very fortunate to be here at the University of Virginia, where this sort of interest of plenary and translational research has been supported.

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00:10:50.280 --> 00:10:52.200

RAIJ: I have see.

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00:10:54.960 --> 00:10:56.580

RAIJ: My disclosures are here.

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00:10:58.020 --> 00:11:03.060

RAIJ: And I would like to acknowledge the village that it takes to do this sort of research.

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00:11:04.800 --> 00:11:13.110

RAIJ: Truly, it takes a huge team want to especially acknowledge my mentor Dr Rebecca dillingham and the entire uva research team.

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00:11:13.500 --> 00:11:28.920

RAIJ: The University of Virginia division of infectious disease and international health, a lot of my colleagues do very different work than me but still asked really excellent questions that helped me move my research forward, as well as thrive and giddy as well, and the rest of our partners.

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00:11:30.390 --> 00:11:38.850

RAIJ: So we're just going to go over a brief overview of HIV in the United States, well then talk about you equals you or undetectable equals untranslatable.

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00:11:39.330 --> 00:11:47.190

RAIJ: i'll then talk about some of the uva based research, where we are looking at how you can help achieve viral suppression for people with low out low incomes.

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00:11:47.700 --> 00:12:00.330

RAIJ: And then we'll talk a little bit about HIV pre exposure prophylaxis and then some of our uva research looking at disparities and prep access both geographic some related to insurance and then some related to utilization management.

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00:12:03.630 --> 00:12:15.270

RAIJ: So it's kind of fitting to be giving this talk Aaron early June we just passed the 40th anniversary of the FM w are reporting on new assistant ammonia and five previously healthy young men and Los Angeles.

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00:12:15.900 --> 00:12:22.200

RAIJ: They were the first five people to be recognized as having a clinical syndrome that them was later found to be HIV and AIDS.

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00:12:22.890 --> 00:12:26.040

RAIJ: So fitting to be doing this around the 40th anniversary.

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RAIJ: However, if we look at kind of what's happened with the US estimated HIV incidents, you can see that things have come down there's kind of three different lines or ways that this is marked on the graph.

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00:12:38.190 --> 00:12:42.450

RAIJ: But really this just represents the different ways that the CDC measures this incidence.

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00:12:42.840 --> 00:12:49.590

RAIJ: You can see more recently that we've been kind of stuck around this 40,000 new cases every single year in the United States.

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00:12:50.010 --> 00:12:59.040

RAIJ: So, despite the fact that we've had antiretroviral therapy since 1996 and despite the fact that we've had prep for HIV pre exposure prophylaxis since 2012.

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00:12:59.520 --> 00:13:09.270

RAIJ: We really haven't seen the kind of decline, that we would hope to see, and maybe that some other countries such as Australia or UK have seen with these interventions.

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00:13:10.770 --> 00:13:16.470

RAIJ: The other thing that I want to point out is that when we look at us estimated HIV incidents by race, ethnicity.

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00:13:17.220 --> 00:13:28.080

RAIJ: There was a lot of talk in the beginning of HIV, that this was a disease of gay white men, but really quite early in the epidemic we actually saw quite quite high increases in.

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00:13:29.190 --> 00:13:38.190

RAIJ: black people and Hispanic people that was really not talked about, and that probably led to communities that thought they weren't at risk, as well as affected stigma.

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00:13:39.180 --> 00:13:48.090

RAIJ: And we also do now see that, when we look in kind of the more recent years we do see a decline for white people that's the darker blue line.

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00:13:48.480 --> 00:13:54.450

RAIJ: And we don't see the same sort of decline for black people or actually for Hispanic people where the line is actually going up.

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00:13:55.080 --> 00:14:04.620

RAIJ: So it's definitely something that we need to be paying attention to, and while the majority of my talk will focus on domestic HIV, I do just want to acknowledge that HIV is a global pandemic.

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RAIJ: And the majority of people living with HIV actually live in sub Saharan Africa, but will most will talk about the US for this talk.

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00:14:12.810 --> 00:14:23.160

RAIJ: So the US kind of has recognized that we need to do something different so during President trump's administration, they actually came out with this very ambitious goal to end the HIV epidemic.

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00:14:23.790 --> 00:14:37.590

RAIJ: So their idea was the 75% reduction in new HIV infections and five years, and at least a 90% reduction in 10 years and they've actually put hundreds of millions of dollars into this plan, already in that money is put in each year.

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00:14:38.550 --> 00:14:48.930

RAIJ: In this talk we're going to focus on viral suppression, so it kind of ties in with this pillar, which is treat people with HIV rapidly and effectively to reach sustained viral suppression.

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00:14:49.500 --> 00:14:57.600

RAIJ: And we're also going to talk about prevention, so preventing new HIV transmissions by using proven interventions, including pre exposure prophylaxis which we'll talk about.

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00:14:58.590 --> 00:15:05.520

RAIJ: So this money unfortunately doesn't go to every place in the United States they've actually selected 48 counties.

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00:15:06.210 --> 00:15:19.230

RAIJ: And seven states with a substantial rural burden they looked at what were the counties in the States that had the most new HIV diagnoses in 2016 to 2017 and that's kind of how they selected these locations to focus in on.

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RAIJ: I think we definitely do need to focus our efforts, but i'm a little bit worried that we're using the 2016 2017 data, because we know that you know.

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RAIJ: Just like coven 19 it will go wherever it wants HIV will go wherever it wants it's not going to stay in those areas so we're trying to lobby to have.

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RAIJ: The government think more proactively, for example, we know right now that there's an HIV related outbreak related to injection drug use in West Virginia.

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RAIJ: and technically based on the way that this law was written they can't use any of these ending HIV epidemic funds for West Virginia because it's not a high priority jurisdiction.

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00:15:57.870 --> 00:16:06.270

RAIJ: So I think that you know, we have the tools we've had lab based research that's led to clinical trials that that's led to wonderful antiretroviral therapy.

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00:16:06.720 --> 00:16:15.390

RAIJ: But really The big question is how do we get the antiretroviral therapy to people, and we know that you know people are affected by all sorts of issues social determinants of health.

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00:16:15.870 --> 00:16:21.960

RAIJ: Things that are impacting whether they can get those medications, how is the US doing and getting the medications to people.

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00:16:22.320 --> 00:16:32.580

RAIJ: So unfortunately we're not doing that well we're represented in the orange bar all the way on the right hand side here in terms of viral suppression and this is putting us in comparison to our high income peers.

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00:16:33.120 --> 00:16:37.140

RAIJ: So we're down at 54% viral suppression for people living with HIV.

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00:16:37.830 --> 00:16:44.370

RAIJ: up in the 80% range over 80% range are some of our peers, such as the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Sweden.

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00:16:44.700 --> 00:16:50.430

RAIJ: So it's definitely something that's achievable it's something we can do well, we just have not been able to get there yet.

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00:16:50.880 --> 00:16:58.800

RAIJ: One of the big differences between us in these high income countries is that we're the only country on this list that doesn't have some form of universal health care.

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RAIJ: So we have kind of a patchwork quilt of how people can get care and how people can get medications but clearly it's not meeting people's needs and we're not achieving the kinds of outcomes that we could be.

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RAIJ: One thing that i'll reference sometimes is that there is kind of this.

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RAIJ: Worldwide goal that we get 90% of people diagnosed 90% of people diagnosed on treatment and then 90% of those people virally suppressed.

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RAIJ: So when we talk about viral suppression you'll see that I use 90% as our goal due to this metric and people thinking that if we could actually achieve this, we would get to very low levels of people living with HIV and we would effectively end the HIV epidemic.

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RAIJ: So in clinics, like the uva Ryan white clinic where we're able to address kind of all these different social determinants of health it's not all doom and gloom.

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00:17:46.260 --> 00:17:55.650

RAIJ: Once patients come to our clinic we have wonderful resources and we're actually able to achieve a viral suppression rate of 91% that has taken, maybe a slight hit during.

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00:17:56.490 --> 00:17:59.910

RAIJ: Where maybe we're just under 90% for the first time in quite a while.

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00:18:00.510 --> 00:18:10.740

RAIJ: But I will say that you know it takes a massive team to do this, the medical team psychology psychiatry peer coaches Community health workers case management.

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RAIJ: We have an Ob gyn team, we have people will help us, you know, make sure, make sure that people maintain their eligibility documents.

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00:18:17.880 --> 00:18:26.550

RAIJ: We have people who train our patients to get jobs, and it really is a full service clinic probably the way I think everybody should be able to practice medicine.

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00:18:26.850 --> 00:18:34.260

RAIJ: So, once we can get people diagnosed get them in the door, get them linked to care, we can do pretty well how are we doing kind of across the US.

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00:18:34.890 --> 00:18:42.750

RAIJ: Well, I think it's important for us in Virginia to know that really the majority of HIV diagnoses are made in the south, we would count as the south so.

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00:18:43.170 --> 00:18:50.880

RAIJ: In the south, we represent about 38% of the US population but we represent 50% of new HIV diagnoses every year.

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00:18:51.210 --> 00:19:01.080

RAIJ: So we're definitely disproportionately represented in a statistic, we probably don't want to be represented in, and you can tell from this map, because the darker colors are kind of clustered in the south.

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00:19:02.610 --> 00:19:09.360

RAIJ: This has been recognized the CDC has been publishing about this, since at least 2016 probably even before that.

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00:19:10.260 --> 00:19:21.960

RAIJ: You know, we experienced a greatest burden of HIV infection illness deaths of any US region and we are behind most other regions in terms of US care and prevention or HIV care and prevention, unfortunately.

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RAIJ: they've also taken this a step further, the CDC has actually looked at what's The lifetime risk of people, based on where they live.

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00:19:29.700 --> 00:19:34.140

RAIJ: So here in Virginia, the lifetime risk of acquiring HIV is one in 115.

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00:19:34.890 --> 00:19:43.290

RAIJ: Which surprised me the first time I heard it's definitely more common than I would think we're not in the top quarter, but we are in the top half of the states in the United States.

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00:19:43.950 --> 00:19:51.270

RAIJ: If you drive just two and a half hours north to our neighbor district of Columbia, the lifetime risk, there is only is one in 13.

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00:19:51.780 --> 00:20:02.610

RAIJ: So it's pretty dramatic and probably as we're seeing patients from northern Virginia or from DC it's something that we should be thinking about you know who is this patient do they have risk for HIV and have they had an HIV test.

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RAIJ: We know that actually not only geography but race, ethnicity, we can look at you know what are the lifetime risk of HIV diagnosis by race and ethnicity so for for African American men it's one in 20.

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00:20:16.020 --> 00:20:22.830

RAIJ: For African American women one in 48 Hispanic men one and 48 Hispanic women one into 27.

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00:20:23.220 --> 00:20:32.340

RAIJ: white men, one on 132 and white one and 198 hundred and 80, and these are very dramatic and shocking numbers and we should think about this as we're seeing people and trying to think about.

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00:20:32.730 --> 00:20:41.160

RAIJ: Pre test probability for HIV, but we know that this is not due to biologic differences, this is due to the impact of social determinants of health structural racism.

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RAIJ: Other things that are impacting people's risk factors for getting HIV and we'll touch on an example of structural racism and the talk later, when we talk about prep.

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RAIJ: We can also then look at what's The lifetime risk of HIV diagnosis by transmission group so for men who have sex with men it's actually one in six.

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00:20:58.650 --> 00:21:07.530

RAIJ: For women who inject drugs one in 23 men who inject drugs one and 36 heterosexual women one and 241 heterosexual men one and 473.

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00:21:07.950 --> 00:21:20.340

RAIJ: So again, something you can think about as you're seeing people in clinic or in the hospital, you know what you know what is this one's this person's sexual behavior and you know or other behavior in terms of injection drugs and have they had an HIV test.

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00:21:21.780 --> 00:21:26.100

RAIJ: When we look at the Cross section of men have sex with them by race, ethnicity, the numbers become.

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00:21:27.450 --> 00:21:33.300

RAIJ: Pretty upsetting for African American men who have sex with men their lifetime risk of acquiring HIV is one and two.



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00:21:33.660 --> 00:21:44.010

RAIJ: Hispanic men who have sex with men one and four and white men who have sex with men one and 11 and so really for all these patients, we should be thinking about HIV testing, as well as HIV pre exposure prophylaxis.

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00:21:45.930 --> 00:21:52.200

RAIJ: I also just want to mention that recently the CDC has come out with some work on the HIV risk and transgender women.

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RAIJ: They looked in seven different cities and actually 42% of transgender women had HIV, there were racial and ethnic disparities.

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00:21:59.640 --> 00:22:08.100

RAIJ: Were 62% of the black or African American transgender women had HIV, while only 11 or seven sorry 17% of white transgender women had HIV.

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00:22:08.850 --> 00:22:17.790

RAIJ: And we do have uva is partnering with Virginia Department of Health Dr Rebecca dillingham and Dr Karen ingersoll leading this project called this great new Community survey.

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00:22:18.060 --> 00:22:30.660

RAIJ: survey to explore the health wellness and experience of virginians who are transgender and gender non conforming or nine there are nine binary person, so this is another topic that uva is looking at and helping dth to study.

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00:22:31.860 --> 00:22:41.160

RAIJ: what's the group least likely to know their HIV status youth paid people 13 to 24 and only about 50% of young people living with HIV have been diagnosed.

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00:22:41.580 --> 00:22:47.250

RAIJ: there's also a grain pattern of HIV epidemic so more than 50% of our patients are actually over 50.

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00:22:47.760 --> 00:22:58.650

RAIJ: And one in six new HIV diagnoses are among people ages 50 and older so sex doesn't stop at age 50 HIV doesn't stop at age 50, we need to still be thinking about people could be a risk over that age.

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00:22:59.550 --> 00:23:01.740

RAIJ: What are the goals of HIV care so.

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00:23:02.310 --> 00:23:13.020

RAIJ: We want to link people to care as soon after their diagnosis as possible, we want to gauge people engage people in their HIV care so that means having patient centered care differentiated care it's not one size fits all.

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00:23:13.590 --> 00:23:21.870

RAIJ: Dr van arson and I saw a patient on Wednesday, who didn't want any chit chat just wanted the medical stuff taking care of one to get in and out as quickly as possible.

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00:23:22.140 --> 00:23:33.150

RAIJ: that's what we were able to deliver for him and he was very happy that's not going to be for everybody, but you've kind of learned the patient and see what they want, I think we took a note to do the same thing, next time, so he'll be happy again.

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00:23:34.260 --> 00:23:40.290

RAIJ: We also want to help our patients achieve an undetectable viral load, which is little to no HIV circulating in the bloodstream.

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00:23:40.980 --> 00:23:48.390

RAIJ: This is really important for individual it helps them with longevity so we actually now can say that HIV treatment can normalize survival.

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00:23:48.660 --> 00:23:56.190

RAIJ: So if a young person with HIV is diagnosed, we can tell them if you take your medication every single day, you will live, just as long as anybody else.

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00:23:57.300 --> 00:24:05.940

RAIJ: The other thing that an undetectable viral load is associated with for public health is less transmission of HIV and, specifically, no sexual transmission of HIV.

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00:24:06.660 --> 00:24:14.040

RAIJ: So that's often kind of shocking if you've never heard it so that's this is this idea of you equals you which we'll talk about so what is you equals you.

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00:24:14.790 --> 00:24:23.700

RAIJ: So you equals you is undetectable equals on transmittable there's no evidence based confirmation that people with HIV, who take effective antiretroviral therapy.

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00:24:23.970 --> 00:24:32.370

RAIJ: and whose viruses suppressed undetectable levels will not transmit HIV sexually and you equals you applies in an HIV viral load of less than 200 copies.

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00:24:32.670 --> 00:24:44.520

RAIJ: Here at uva we measure viral loads down to under 40 copies so we're getting even more sensitive than this, but that 200 threshold is very important because around the globe, a lot of countries do just use a 200 threshold.

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00:24:45.720 --> 00:24:56.040

RAIJ: So the science is clear will go through HP 1005 to the partner trial partner to and opposites attract but, basically, this was combined data from 2008 to 2016.

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00:24:56.400 --> 00:25:03.660

RAIJ: That sure that there were zero linked HIV transmissions after more than 100,000 condom sex acts within both heterosexual and.

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00:25:04.140 --> 00:25:19.860

RAIJ: MSM couples, where one person had HIV and one person did not and the partner with HIV had a suppressed viral load, so I actually looked last night I thought, how many it says more than 100,000 how many was more than 140,000 condom a sex sex so quite a lot of data.

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00:25:21.060 --> 00:25:33.930

RAIJ: This applies to sexual activity, but it doesn't imply that kind of sex is safe they're still sexually transmitted infections so pregnancy, and this also does not apply to breastfeeding sharing needles or blood transfusions that's important to note.

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00:25:35.100 --> 00:25:42.480

RAIJ: Before the world had Tony foushee he was kind of the King of HIV and infectious diseases, for us, so here is.

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00:25:44.070 --> 00:25:53.760

RAIJ: that the concept of you equals you is the foundation of being able to end the HIV epidemic, and this is an infographic from the NIH so it's actually started more as like a grassroots.

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00:25:55.080 --> 00:26:00.870

RAIJ: You equals use program but actually now countries and institutions in groups have signed on and agreed.

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00:26:02.280 --> 00:26:04.770

RAIJ: So let's go through some of the data, so this HP.

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00:26:05.940 --> 00:26:15.510

RAIJ: This was a randomized trial, this was actually they looked at early or delayed a RT and they enrolled just over 1700 zero different couples.

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00:26:16.110 --> 00:26:20.760

RAIJ: Half were randomized early or T half a randomized to delayed and delayed a RT.

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RAIJ: They followed people for about 1.7 years, at which point there was an interim analysis and the data safety monitoring board actually said, we need to stop this study, because you found such a significant difference.

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00:26:31.260 --> 00:26:46.080

RAIJ: So actually found that there was a 97 and 96% reduction in HIV incidence among partners who are with people who started a RT early, so there was only one link transmission in early therapy, there were 27 in deferred therapy.

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00:26:46.920 --> 00:26:54.540

RAIJ: This gave us this idea about treatment as prevention, where you if you treat the partner with HIV, you can actually prevent their partners from getting HIV.

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00:26:54.870 --> 00:27:05.730

RAIJ: This study was actually continue, then for an additional five years where they gave everybody a party and they continue to see a benefit of a party for the partner who do not have HIV.

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00:27:07.380 --> 00:27:15.090

RAIJ: Then we have the partner study, so this is a perspective observational study, where people living with HIV run a party they enrolled.

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00:27:15.690 --> 00:27:20.730

RAIJ: Just under 1200 zero different couples, where one person had HIV and one person did not.

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00:27:21.360 --> 00:27:28.950

RAIJ: They followed people for a median of 1.3 years and there were 62% male female couples and the rest were male male couples.

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00:27:29.430 --> 00:27:35.730

RAIJ: So here they found actually the all the point estimates of the rate of within couple transmission per 100 couple years of follow up.

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00:27:36.030 --> 00:27:46.890

RAIJ: All the point transmissions were zero However, if you look at the confidence intervals, they certainly receptive anal sex with ejaculate did have kind of a higher up or 95% confidence interval.

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00:27:47.340 --> 00:27:50.760

RAIJ: And you could say, well, the point estimate was zero what does that really mean.

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00:27:51.480 --> 00:28:02.640

RAIJ: will translate in you know that upper 95% confidence interval of 2.23 if we translate that into a risk for an individual person actually 20% risk over 10 years so it's not zero.

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00:28:03.360 --> 00:28:16.710

RAIJ: So what they decided to do was actually take this trial and extend it and continue to enroll male male couples to try to understand this better and get a better idea of whether they truly could say it was zero or whether we need to revisit this.

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00:28:18.090 --> 00:28:26.670

RAIJ: So they did the the partner to study, which was a perspective observational study again the partner, the person with HIV was on a RT.

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00:28:27.240 --> 00:28:32.760

RAIJ: They had 972 zero different male male couples and they follow people for a median of two years.

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00:28:33.180 --> 00:28:39.450

RAIJ: And so, with this, they were actually able to you can see, the data at the bottom for gay couples was from partner, one where you can see that.

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00:28:39.750 --> 00:28:43.560

RAIJ: very wide confidence interval going all the way out to the lime green.

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00:28:43.950 --> 00:28:49.140

RAIJ: And when they did partner one and partner to data together they could actually see that that comes in our shrunk.

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00:28:49.410 --> 00:28:57.960

RAIJ: And it was actually even less uncertain, then for heterosexual couples, they could truly say yes, we can say that this you equals you in this zero transmissions.

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00:28:58.470 --> 00:29:08.370

RAIJ: You know, applies to both heterosexual couples, as well as gay couples was actually very fortunate to be at the conference, where this data was presented, and it was very.

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00:29:09.360 --> 00:29:16.980

RAIJ: amazing to see this data presented in person and actually the researcher cried on stage as she was presenting it just because of what it meant and what.

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00:29:17.430 --> 00:29:20.490

RAIJ: What it what should you bring to the world with that was pretty cool.

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00:29:21.390 --> 00:29:37.380

RAIJ: there's also another study called opposites attract and they had 358 zero different male male couples, it was also to help kind of get at this issue about confidence intervals and risk, and so they actually found similar data to the partner to studies like also supported that.

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00:29:38.550 --> 00:29:44.760

RAIJ: there's also been some recent data presented at conferences about what are the health benefits of discussing you equals you.

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00:29:45.030 --> 00:29:50.610

RAIJ: So, compared with people with HIV, who had not heard about you equals you people who hear about it from a health care provider.

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00:29:50.850 --> 00:30:03.450

RAIJ: Report, a lot of positive things such as awareness that antiretroviral therapy can prevent transmission treatment satisfaction better adherence better overall health better mental health and better sexual health all things that we want for our patients.

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00:30:05.100 --> 00:30:11.820

RAIJ: So we bring you back to this and we think about this red arrow talk to you a little bit about some of the research that we've done so.

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00:30:12.840 --> 00:30:20.910

RAIJ: we'd like to think about you know how did these health policy laws, how does the Ryan white HIV, AIDS program how to medicaid medicare and insurance, how does this impact.

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00:30:21.210 --> 00:30:31.440

RAIJ: This red arrow you how do these different factors affect what our patients can get and so i'll go through an example, focusing on the ACTA instruct assistance programs and insurance.

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00:30:32.400 --> 00:30:43.980

RAIJ: So it stroke assistance programs are key part of the US healthcare delivery safety net there federally mandated as part of the Ryan white care act they're implemented at the State level, though, so there's about 50 plus different individual aid Apps.

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00:30:44.310 --> 00:30:56.010

RAIJ: To each make all their own decisions they all do provide free medications notably a RT and after the ACI they were actually able to pay insurance premiums and or office offer insurance cost sharing support.

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00:30:57.510 --> 00:31:06.870

RAIJ: How do you get eligible for an extra assistance programs, so you have to be below about 400 to 500% of the federal poverty level and i've put what those numbers are here, so you can get a sense for context.

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00:31:07.230 --> 00:31:13.560

RAIJ: But actually more than half of a top clients actually have incomes lower than the federal poverty level so it's a very vulnerable population.

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00:31:14.610 --> 00:31:24.480

RAIJ: And, especially when we think about for HIV, if you were to try to purchase antiretroviral therapy at a pocket without insurance, it can be 30,000 \$40,000 a year so it's quite expensive.

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00:31:25.950 --> 00:31:36.420

RAIJ: These aids drug assistance programs we call them a safety net, they actually support about a quarter of people living with HIV in the United States and it's a massive program they have an operating budget about 2.9 billion.

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00:31:38.220 --> 00:31:51.750

RAIJ: It surprisingly they're very understudied or one of the only groups looking into them and trying to understand how they work and how can they work better and we've already discussed kind of the importance of getting viral suppression, both for the individual, as well as for public health.

157

00:31:53.070 --> 00:32:02.520

RAIJ: We also think that you know, in addition to doing what's right for people helping people get virally suppressed that actually eight Apps can actually help them reduce health care costs.

158

00:32:02.820 --> 00:32:08.970

RAIJ: So each prevented HIV infection saves about over \$400,000 and lifetime medical costs.

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00:32:09.420 --> 00:32:18.360

RAIJ: And while every state every state has an aide at the outcomes vary widely and probably due to the patchwork nature of state level resources and decisions.

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00:32:19.110 --> 00:32:24.180

RAIJ: So you know if we look at you know we have that 90% target for viral suppression.

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00:32:24.720 --> 00:32:33.240

RAIJ: All people living in the United States, the viral suppression rate has been going up so say 58% in 2014 and up to 65% in 2018.

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00:32:33.840 --> 00:32:43.650

RAIJ: What do we know about eight Apps so we know that aid Apps are actually delivering better than average outcomes for this vulnerable population with the most recent viral suppression data showing 80%.

163

00:32:44.130 --> 00:32:52.920

RAIJ: When we try to look at it by state, though, you can see there's a lot of variation there is some missing data in here, so you can't take too much from from some of it, but basically.

164

00:32:53.250 --> 00:33:04.230

RAIJ: it's a federally mandated safety net program but it's implemented at the state level they're overachieving on viral suppression, but if you look state by state, the rate can be anywhere from 53 290 3%.

165

00:33:04.680 --> 00:33:10.830

RAIJ: So huge variation So if you live, just over a state border, you might be in a system that maybe is not doing as well.



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00:33:12.630 --> 00:33:23.550

RAIJ: So in 2013 before the affordable care act all the aid Apps provided medications directly to people, so you if you were eligible for a nap you would get your HIV medication directly.

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00:33:24.240 --> 00:33:32.970

RAIJ: In 2014 many of these aids for assistance programs decided that they would start to buy a car plans or qualified health plans.

168

00:33:33.510 --> 00:33:39.750

RAIJ: And so we actually studied here in Virginia kind of what happened in the 2013 to 2014 transition.

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00:33:40.200 --> 00:33:46.500

RAIJ: What happened when people shifted to these qualified health plans or what happened when they stayed on direct aid and what happened to viral suppression.

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00:33:47.130 --> 00:33:55.050

RAIJ: So we actually found that for people who stayed on direct data kept getting their medications from the state viral suppression was about 79%.

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00:33:55.440 --> 00:34:07.530

RAIJ: For those who shifted to eight up on the Q HP it was 85% this was in over 2000 patients and when we did a multi variable model at the having the insurance was associated with improved outcome.

172

00:34:08.310 --> 00:34:14.280

RAIJ: This work did have real world policy implications so because we're able to show better outcomes with virginia's model.

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00:34:14.580 --> 00:34:22.500

RAIJ: Actually, in North Carolina the Duke legal clinics their health justice clinic took this on and advocated for North Carolina to change their laws.

174

00:34:22.920 --> 00:34:27.180

RAIJ: And they did subsequently change their laws to mirror Virginia, so that was pretty exciting.

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00:34:27.840 --> 00:34:37.710

RAIJ: back to our finding we were wondering Okay, that was the first year great is it sustained Is this something we're really going to see year over year was there something about that year.

176

00:34:38.160 --> 00:34:51.150

RAIJ: So we studied it in the second year of the ACI here in Virginia and we still found a significant difference 79% for people on direct data 83% for people who got the eight APP funded qualified health plans and had insurance.

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00:34:52.230 --> 00:34:58.230

RAIJ: I often get the question of okay you got better outcomes, but what did it cost so actually Virginia was.

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00:34:59.070 --> 00:35:03.360

RAIJ: Virginia Department of Health is very innovative shared with us the financial data.

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00:35:03.720 --> 00:35:12.030

RAIJ: And so we actually actually told us that for people who have direct aid APP it costs 10,000 just over \$10,000 per patient per year to buy their medications.

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00:35:12.480 --> 00:35:26.160

RAIJ: and on average to buy people health insurance costs just under 50 \$400 so not only were we achieving better viral suppression, but it was costing Virginia federal people state tax dollars less less money so that's good for us.

181

00:35:27.300 --> 00:35:37.890

RAIJ: We then thought Okay, we found this in Virginia and some colleague said, found it in in nebraska for the first year of the ACI but, but why don't we try to combine three different states and try to see if we still see this.

182

00:35:38.310 --> 00:35:50.250

RAIJ: So we did this for the second year of the ICA so we looked from 2014 to 2015 so we studied kind of what happened, what was someone's exposure in 2015 and did they get virally suppressed.

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00:35:50.790 --> 00:35:57.960

RAIJ: So for this study we had just under 8000 participants, most of them were from Virginia, two thirds were black race or ethnicity.

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00:35:58.200 --> 00:36:10.530

RAIJ: 75% were under 138% of the federal poverty level I point that out, because if these three states had expanded medicaid at that time 75% of this cohort would have actually had medicaid and not would not have needed.

185

00:36:11.040 --> 00:36:15.420

RAIJ: A drug assistance program and a quarter of people had a detectable viral load.

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00:36:16.590 --> 00:36:25.500

RAIJ: So when we looked at this, we found similar results to what we had found in our Virginia population, so we found that for direct aid APP the viral suppression rate was at point 2%.

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00:36:25.830 --> 00:36:39.300

RAIJ: And for a definite Q HP it was 86%, and this was in just over 4500 patients, so we found that you know what we had previously found held up and we did a log by binomial model and found again that.

188

00:36:39.690 --> 00:36:46.830

RAIJ: Being on the Ad funded Q HP was associated with improve viral suppression when controlling for many other covariance.

189

00:36:48.210 --> 00:36:52.410

RAIJ: We then took this a step further and calculated a number needed to treat or enroll.

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00:36:52.860 --> 00:37:04.440

RAIJ: So this was the number of people needed to treat or enroll in a definite qh piece for an additional person to achieve viral suppression, we found that that number was only 20 so it was pretty exciting to find such a low value.

191

00:37:05.970 --> 00:37:20.040

RAIJ: And we believe this might be the first time that that number needed to treat or enroll has been applied to kind of a health policy application, there was no significant difference in the effect among the three states, so we could say that that number actually applied to all three states.

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00:37:21.720 --> 00:37:32.700

RAIJ: So they'd have funded qh peas were associated with improve viral suppression viral suppression didn't vary based on any covariance, and this is reassuring in terms of decreasing disparities and viral suppression.

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00:37:33.270 --> 00:37:42.060

RAIJ: Especially because when we do look at viral suppression and a gap by race and ethnicity, we do see that black people living with HIV on a deaf are lagging behind in terms of viral suppression.

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00:37:42.450 --> 00:37:53.100

RAIJ: However, we do think that it's possible that the AIDS drug assistance programs buying people insurance may actually help reduce this disparity and we'll be looking at that in depth in a in our next grant.

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00:37:54.840 --> 00:38:04.020

RAIJ: Going back to the number needed to treat or enroll so basically a 50 people decided to shift from direct eight up to eight up on a huge piece during ACTA open enrollment.

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00:38:04.290 --> 00:38:12.030

RAIJ: We would think that one additional person would achieve or maintain viral suppression and this could really have huge benefits to the individuals as well as public health.

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00:38:13.350 --> 00:38:17.730

RAIJ: When we extrapolate the cost data from Virginia eight APP having 20 people on the.

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00:38:18.990 --> 00:38:30.210

RAIJ: would be just over \$100,000 and having 20 people on direct data is just over \$200,000, so it is also less expensive for people to be on that eight have been in queue HP.

199

00:38:32.370 --> 00:38:37.320

RAIJ: We also did a calculation if all the people who are getting direct aid APP shifted over to these.

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00:38:38.610 --> 00:38:47.220

RAIJ: We actually would see an additional 2.4% of beta clients achieve viral suppression and so that would be good for the people, the individuals as well as it would help public health.

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00:38:48.180 --> 00:38:57.540

RAIJ: So we often get the question why do we think that these ACTA plans result in higher viral suppression, we did a mixed methods study, where we talked to a DEP clients have three different Virginia clinics.

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00:38:57.930 --> 00:39:07.410

RAIJ: And this is what we hypothesize based on talking to them that it's either due to one or a combination of the following either perceived or actual improved medication coverage.

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00:39:07.740 --> 00:39:12.300

RAIJ: Improved method of obtaining medication for people who preferred receiving their medications by mail.

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00:39:12.630 --> 00:39:19.200

RAIJ: When you're on direct data, you had to go in person each month to the health department and pick up your meds whereas when you had an AC a plan.

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00:39:19.710 --> 00:39:31.920

RAIJ: You actually often we get your medications mailed to your House, we also The other thing that patients told us was that they felt that there was increased access to overall health care, leading to improved engagement healthcare, including HIV care.

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00:39:33.300 --> 00:39:41.430

RAIJ: So obviously limitations as a retrospective cohort study we limited the viral suppression outcomes to people who were engaged in care so we were comparing.

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00:39:42.270 --> 00:39:49.740

RAIJ: Apples to apples, instead of apples to oranges and there could be unmeasured differences between those who enroll in qualified health plans and those who stay on direct data.

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00:39:51.330 --> 00:40:03.450

RAIJ: But overall, you know the Association of coverage through a definite qh piece of viral suppression was not different based on demographic factors, so it shows that the structural system level intervention benefit of people with HIV across demographic groups.

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00:40:03.750 --> 00:40:19.050

RAIJ: and did not contribute to disparities, we think that state aid Apps especially without medicaid expansion should consider this method to get people health insurance and get people virally suppressed, and this intervention could be a part of us as planned and HIV epidemic.

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00:40:20.280 --> 00:40:24.600

RAIJ: So just to recap, we just went over example where his drug assistance programs.

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00:40:24.960 --> 00:40:34.110

RAIJ: Used aspects of the affordable care act to purchase insurance for people and that we saw that it did impact the way that people were able to get medications and get viral suppression.

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00:40:34.770 --> 00:40:42.690

RAIJ: Some of the specific policy changes that could help ending the HIV epidemic so eight Apps could actually expand eligibility, so that the programs can enroll more people.

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00:40:42.930 --> 00:40:50.250

RAIJ: Because they're already you know delivering great outcomes so maybe we could expand eligibility to 600% of the federal poverty level.

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00:40:51.180 --> 00:40:56.700

RAIJ: Currently, eight Apps are allowed to purchase insurance if it's less expensive than purchasing medications.

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00:40:56.970 --> 00:41:07.380

RAIJ: But the federal government could encourage it more they could regulate it and make it more of a standard of care and then they could also help to address some of the barriers such as political resources or technical know how.

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00:41:09.540 --> 00:41:23.910

RAIJ: Now we're going to switch gears and move into HIV pre exposure prophylaxis so when we think about HIV prevention there's biomedical interventions behavioral interventions and structural interventions will be focusing on biomedical interventions.

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00:41:25.020 --> 00:41:34.890

RAIJ: So you know, everybody should know about prep it has the US preventive services Task Force great of a, which means that they recommend that clinicians offer prep.

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00:41:35.790 --> 00:41:42.090

RAIJ: You know, to people who are at high risk of HIV infection so it's something we really all should be thinking about this.

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00:41:43.050 --> 00:41:55.860

RAIJ: This recommendation also is important, because actually affects the cost sharing that insurance plans can do, and so, because of this most insurance plans have to cover it with no cost no cost sharing to the patient, so it should be for each for the patient.

220

00:41:56.970 --> 00:42:09.150

RAIJ: What is prepped so prep is a daily pill, with a fixed dose combination of two antiretroviral therapy drugs that are both reverse transcriptase inhibitors so either tgf or tf with FTC.

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00:42:09.510 --> 00:42:19.140

RAIJ: And will refer to them by their abbreviations, and how does prep work so it's new take prep every single day and as someone gets exposed to HIV.

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00:42:19.980 --> 00:42:31.770

RAIJ: That turned off of here in the intro say to me and get two levels within the cells that are at the the general mucosal surface and can help protect someone from HIV actually getting into those cells and and causing an infection.

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00:42:33.120 --> 00:42:39.870

RAIJ: Who should we be giving prep to or who should we consider prep for so consider prep for people with the following sexual behaviors or risk factors.

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00:42:40.230 --> 00:42:46.170

RAIJ: If someone has a sexual partner with HIV, it should be considered if someone has a bacterial STI in the past six months.

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00:42:46.740 --> 00:42:53.880

RAIJ: Unfortunately, the guidelines, say, a high number of sex partners, but they don't give us a discrete number but that's kind of what the guidelines tell us.

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00:42:54.330 --> 00:43:01.230

RAIJ: If someone is reporting inconsistent or no condom use if someone reports sex work or trading sex for housing or drugs.

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00:43:01.590 --> 00:43:10.530

RAIJ: Or if someone isn't a high prevalence area or networks such as just living in DC where your lifetime risk is one in 13 probably should at least consider this if you're sexually active.

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00:43:11.910 --> 00:43:21.930

RAIJ: In addition, for people who inject drugs, we should be thinking about this for people who say that they inject with a partner with HIV or a partner of unknown HIV status.

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00:43:22.650 --> 00:43:29.640

RAIJ: For people who report any shared injection equipment and it's not just the needles it's kind of all the other paraphernalia that get used as well.

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00:43:30.120 --> 00:43:36.900

RAIJ: And anyone who's been in drug treatment for injection drug use in the past six months, it should be considered and now we'll go into some of the data.

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00:43:37.440 --> 00:43:44.730

RAIJ: For prep data we think about the data in terms of different risk groups in terms of where people might be exposed to HIV because.

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00:43:45.270 --> 00:43:54.930

RAIJ: prep gets to therapeutic levels in different types of tissue at different amounts of time and that's why we kind of separate people out based on where they might be a risk for HIV.

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00:43:55.530 --> 00:44:07.470

RAIJ: So the first group that will talk about our men and transgender women who have sex with men, the first study was this I prep study it was a phase three randomized double blind placebo controlled trial they enrolled just under.

234

00:44:07.890 --> 00:44:20.010

RAIJ: 2500 men and transgender women, although of note only 1% were actually transgender women and they had a median follow up of 1.2 years and they saw a reduction in the incidence of HIV of 44%.

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00:44:20.820 --> 00:44:28.740

RAIJ: They then additionally kind of looked at, well, we only saw a reduction of 44% What if we kind of separate people based on.

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00:44:29.220 --> 00:44:41.730

RAIJ: Whether they had detectable low detectable plasma levels of these medications and they did find that actually once you restricted to that that you could actually find that it had more of an impact among people who were adherent to the medication.

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00:44:42.390 --> 00:44:45.450

RAIJ: And that's a common theme and prep studies that we'll talk about.

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00:44:46.620 --> 00:44:57.270

RAIJ: There then was another study the ether gay study, this is a phase three randomized double blind placebo controlled trial this actually looked at PDF FTC taken before and after sexual activity.

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00:44:57.660 --> 00:45:08.910

RAIJ: As below there were 400 men and transgender women, they said that you had to have condom is no intercourse with men and they found actually a relative risk reduction in HIV infection of 86%.

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00:45:09.510 --> 00:45:15.240

RAIJ: This dosing schedule is not approved by the FDA here so here in the United States, we still recommend daily prep.



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00:45:15.720 --> 00:45:27.630

RAIJ: But this is something that people are very interested in this idea of kind of on demand prep taking it only when you need it and we do anticipate at some point that that the guidelines and the FDA will approve this.

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00:45:29.040 --> 00:45:39.090

RAIJ: There then was the proud study, so this was a randomized open label study had about 544 MSM with economists anal intercourse in the past 90 days.

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00:45:39.690 --> 00:45:42.780

RAIJ: The relative risk reduction in HIV was 86%.

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00:45:43.290 --> 00:45:52.560

RAIJ: So this was pretty dramatic this was actually higher protection, then was eaten placebo controlled trials and refuted some of the concerns that effectiveness would be less than real world settings.

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00:45:52.950 --> 00:46:01.980

RAIJ: And the other thing that was interesting about this study of this real world study was that they found no evidence of an increase in other St eyes, which is something that some studies have sometimes shown.

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00:46:02.550 --> 00:46:11.820

RAIJ: Yes, okay there's less less HIV, but there might be more syphilis or more gonorrhea chlamydia this study real world setting did not show any increase in St eyes.

247

00:46:14.460 --> 00:46:26.100

RAIJ: We then have in this group in men and transgender women who have sex with men, we have the discover trial, this is very recent, this is a phase three randomized double blind trial it compared tgf FTC and taff FTC.

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00:46:26.760 --> 00:46:34.020

RAIJ: had just under 5400 men and transgender women, although of note, again, there were only 1% transgender women so a small number.

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00:46:34.530 --> 00:46:41.370

RAIJ: This study showed that taff FTC was not inferior to tf FTC in terms of reducing HIV incidents.

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00:46:42.000 --> 00:46:53.460

RAIJ: taff FTC had more favorable effects on bone mineral density taff FTC had more favorable biomarkers of renal safety but tough FTC was also associated with a weekend compared to tf FTC.

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00:46:54.180 --> 00:47:03.720

RAIJ: Based on this study actually tap FTC was approved for men and transgender women by the FDA and October 2019 but it's important to note that this is not approved for women.

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00:47:05.910 --> 00:47:15.090

RAIJ: One we're switching kind of switching gears to heterosexual men and women so there's a partners prep studies we talked about partner one partner to now we have partners prep.

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00:47:15.720 --> 00:47:24.330

RAIJ: This is a phase three randomized double blind placebo placebo controlled study they had just over 4700 m zero negative heterosexual couples.

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00:47:24.870 --> 00:47:29.670

RAIJ: Of note at this time, you know one one partner had HIV one partner did not have HIV.

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00:47:29.940 --> 00:47:38.520

RAIJ: And this was done quite a while ago, and so the partner with HIV was actually not prescribed ar T because they were not eligible for local guidelines at the time that the study was conducted.

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00:47:39.330 --> 00:47:49.770

RAIJ: So they studied, you know what if we, the partner with HIV is not on Prem is not on treatment, what if the partner without HIV gets PDF FTC PDF or placebo.

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00:47:50.340 --> 00:48:04.260

RAIJ: It was stopped in an interim analysis in mid 2011 because PDF showed a 67% reduction in HIV acquisition and PDF FTC show to 75% reduction in acquisition, so it was stopped because it showed such a good benefit.

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00:48:05.730 --> 00:48:17.070

RAIJ: We then have a Botswana tgf to trial, this was a phase three randomized double blind placebo controlled study, they did PDF FTC versus placebo about 1200 heterosexual men and women.

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00:48:17.850 --> 00:48:30.600

RAIJ: In their intention to treat they found a 62% reduction in HIV acquisition and in there as treated so looking at people who actually took the medication and ahead detectable drug levels, it was a 78% reduction in HIV acquisition.

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00:48:32.700 --> 00:48:40.590

RAIJ: So the data is building and building for prep, we can see that there is a lot of data, unfortunately, the studies and women have not been as as helpful so.

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00:48:41.070 --> 00:48:50.340

RAIJ: will be switched to the group of women, looking at femme prep this was a phase three randomized double blind placebo controlled trials, they looked at tf FTC versus placebo.

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00:48:50.760 --> 00:48:56.370

RAIJ: This was stopped in 2011 when an interim analysis showed that the trial would be unlikely to detect a significant difference.

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00:48:56.760 --> 00:49:07.440

RAIJ: And when they actually looked at it here it's less than 50% of women on TV FF BC had a detectable drug level, and so we think a lot of the futility of this study was actually probably the low adherence.

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00:49:08.070 --> 00:49:12.930

RAIJ: We then had the voice trial, this was a phase two double blind placebo controlled trial study.

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00:49:13.500 --> 00:49:23.100

RAIJ: They looked at oral PDF versus oral PDF FTC versus national PDF versus placebos the oral PDF and vegetables PDF arms were stopped for futility.

266

00:49:23.370 --> 00:49:33.120

RAIJ: The PDF FTC arm show no reduction HIV acquisition, but there was a very low adherence less than 40% of people in every group had detectable drug levels.

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00:49:33.840 --> 00:49:45.630

RAIJ: So, unfortunately, the prep studies and women have really been thwarted by this issue of low adherence, but we do still think that tgf FTC when when taken appropriately can reduce HIV and women.

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00:49:46.890 --> 00:49:53.190

RAIJ: And then, in terms of data for people who inject drugs, we have our bank auction off your study this was.

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00:49:53.700 --> 00:50:01.770

RAIJ: Supported by the CDC it was a phase two three randomized double blind placebo controlled study and there were 2400 participants.

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00:50:02.220 --> 00:50:09.930

RAIJ: People also received access to addiction support services methadone programs bleach for cleaning needles condoms and primary care medical services.

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00:50:10.320 --> 00:50:21.960

RAIJ: And there was a relative risk reduction of 49% when you looked just that people who had detectable tgf levels, the relative risk reduction was 70% and that's often the number that cited, when we talk about how.

272

00:50:22.320 --> 00:50:25.830

RAIJ: prep can reduce the incidence of HIV among people who inject drugs.

273

00:50:26.370 --> 00:50:31.350

RAIJ: I think this is important, especially for Jen MED, that we should consider prep for people who inject drugs.

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00:50:31.650 --> 00:50:37.830

RAIJ: Think, often on Jen mad when we're meeting people with substance use related infections they'll tell us i'm never going to inject again.

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00:50:38.610 --> 00:50:45.720

RAIJ: We you know, unfortunately, a lot of them do come back to the hospital with infections, and so we know that's not true, so I think if we can maintain.

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00:50:46.170 --> 00:50:52.680

RAIJ: Just open lines of communication about what prep is and maybe set people up to see a PCP who would be willing to prescribe prep.

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00:50:53.010 --> 00:51:03.150

RAIJ: It might be something that's hard to prescribe an Inpatient setting, but we should at least probably start the conversation and do a warm handoff to a PCP you can continue the conversation.

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00:51:04.980 --> 00:51:07.110

RAIJ: So we can help prevent HIV in this area.

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00:51:08.760 --> 00:51:15.420

RAIJ: A lot of times, people are very worried about how will my patient pay for prep So there are a lot of programs that help people pay for prep so.

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00:51:16.080 --> 00:51:31.980

RAIJ: there's this in within the ending HIV epidemic there's this ready set prep program there's also a lot of pharmaceutical assistance programs so actually paying for prep itself usually is not a barrier for our patients once someone knows about it and wants to take it.

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00:51:33.420 --> 00:51:38.940

RAIJ: So when we think about this model that i've shown you before about some of our other research, when we talk about prep.

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00:51:39.330 --> 00:51:47.490

RAIJ: We don't have the Ryan white HIV, AIDS program because that's for people who have HIV, but we do have this ending the HIV epidemic initiative already set prep.

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00:51:47.880 --> 00:51:57.600

RAIJ: And so, a lot of the ways that we investigate, you know how do people living with HIV get their medication and get good care we can think about that for people who are at risk for HIV so.

284

00:51:59.220 --> 00:52:07.140

RAIJ: This really prep was not on my radar or something that I studied until about two years ago, when a partner at a nonprofit who was very interested in prep.

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00:52:07.590 --> 00:52:15.060

RAIJ: said, well, I know you have all that health insurance data why don't we look at like what's going on with prep and how our insurance companies, covering it.

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00:52:15.600 --> 00:52:28.740

RAIJ: So we looked at almost 17,000 as a qualified health plans, these were all the qualified health plans that were on the market in 2019 across the entire United States and we looked at prior authorization for PDF FTC by region.

287

00:52:30.330 --> 00:52:31.680

RAIJ: I still remember when the student.

288

00:52:32.160 --> 00:52:40.410

RAIJ: Doing this code came to my office and knocked on the door, because they thought that they must have done something wrong in the coding, but unfortunately they did the coding correct, and this is the correct data.

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00:52:40.830 --> 00:52:52.230

RAIJ: That only 2% of qh peas in the northeast require prior authorization 6% in the West 13% in the Midwest but 37% in the south, so we found a 16 time.

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00:52:52.890 --> 00:53:03.090

RAIJ: You know 16 times as many qh PS would have these this prior authorization for TD FTC in the south and why does that matter you guys have filled out prior authorizations are huge pain in the butt.

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00:53:03.390 --> 00:53:12.420

RAIJ: oftentimes we don't even know that we need to do it until the patient goes to the goes to the pharmacy tries to pick up the medication and gets turned away there, so it causes a it's a huge barrier.

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00:53:13.620 --> 00:53:18.660

RAIJ: And we don't know kind of how often does this affect people actually picking up prep and things like that, but.

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00:53:19.170 --> 00:53:25.440

RAIJ: kind of any of these sorts of barriers that we want to get rid of, and whenever there's a disparity in a barrier barrier, we always want to ask why.

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00:53:26.130 --> 00:53:34.890

RAIJ: So we tried to see are there other plan characteristics that like explain this so we looked at whether like it was a national issue or versus a regional issue issue.

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00:53:35.130 --> 00:53:44.460

RAIJ: Whether it was associated with high deductible or cost sharing structure or the specialty drug tier status or the plan level or their ministry or the competition.

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00:53:44.940 --> 00:53:52.170

RAIJ: And we actually we didn't find anything that truly explained it nothing, nothing explained why we had this more in the south.

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00:53:52.500 --> 00:53:59.790

RAIJ: But we did find that national issuers were actually more likely to require prior authorization for qh peas in the south, compared with their qh fees and other regions.

298

00:54:00.030 --> 00:54:09.120

RAIJ: So if i'm company a and I have a plan in the northeast and I have a plan in a South i'm proactively on purpose deciding to do something different, in the south, so there's something going on.

299

00:54:10.860 --> 00:54:14.940

RAIJ: You know this PDF FTC prior authorization is an example of structural racism.

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00:54:15.330 --> 00:54:26.730

RAIJ: More than half of black Americans live in the south, so they're more likely to face this barrier there already disparities in HIV acquisition and policies, the impact access to prep will perpetuate or even worse than the racial disparities.

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00:54:27.270 --> 00:54:34.830

RAIJ: And as we talked about earlier, the CDC has said that lifetime risk of acquiring HIV for black men is one in 20 and for black women is one in 48.

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00:54:35.130 --> 00:54:42.780

RAIJ: And while this issue with prior authorization you can't be blamed for all of that, it certainly is not helping us as we're trying to turn the tide against HIV.

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00:54:44.250 --> 00:54:53.520

RAIJ: We also then wanted to look down by like rating area and try to understand your rating areas, the area you're in when you buy health insurance, and so we wanted to understand.

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00:54:53.850 --> 00:55:00.300

RAIJ: Okay, it seems to be worse in the south, but then you know what happens when we look state by state, and we did find that there are.

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00:55:01.020 --> 00:55:06.750

RAIJ: You know, states that stand out as maybe having this as more of an issue, one of the issues is that.

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00:55:07.380 --> 00:55:12.870

RAIJ: As part of the affordable care act, there are checks done on discriminatory benefit design.

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00:55:13.140 --> 00:55:22.230

RAIJ: But they're all done within a state so you're never comparing state a State be and you're never comparing like a state in a south to stay in the northeast or.

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00:55:22.470 --> 00:55:28.710

RAIJ: A state in the South to what's the national picture, and I think that that's probably you know, we think the affordable care act is protecting us.

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00:55:29.340 --> 00:55:35.700

RAIJ: But really they're probably needs to be more teeth and some of the regulation to actually get it some of this discriminatory benefits design and.

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00:55:36.060 --> 00:55:45.720

RAIJ: and get it where it's affecting people, you know, this is just for prep i'm sure if you looked at this for insulin or hypertension medications you probably would see similar issues.

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00:55:46.740 --> 00:55:56.430

RAIJ: So what kinds of policy changes could help ending the HIV epidemic in this state in this sort of issue, so the Federal Government or the state government could categorize prep as an urgent medication.

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00:55:56.640 --> 00:56:07.680

RAIJ: So that insurance companies have to respond to the prior authorization request in a certain amount of time, so right now there are some states that have regulation around this where you certain drugs, you have to respond within 48 hours.

313

00:56:08.490 --> 00:56:13.980

RAIJ: The other thing that the Federal Government could do is institute regulations that look for regional or state outliers among.

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00:56:14.550 --> 00:56:21.210

RAIJ: among their region and then we've also advocated that state insurance regulators, or the Department of Health and human services office of.

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00:56:21.510 --> 00:56:31.920

RAIJ: Civil Rights should actually examine why the national issuers are putting additional barriers in place for prep in the south and whether this constitutes discriminatory plan design this work has gotten a lot of.

316

00:56:33.450 --> 00:56:39.960



RAIJ: attention from aid service organizations and advocates who use this to kind of, say, we need to make some changes.

317

00:56:41.340 --> 00:56:48.360

RAIJ: We then also decided to look at you know, we had seen that variation by State in terms of qualified health plans requiring prior authorization.

318

00:56:48.660 --> 00:56:59.550

RAIJ: And we wanted to do a calculation of like what is the state level prep uptake, so this is who gets a prep prescription of people that the CDC things are at risk for HIV, and this is from 2014 to 2018.

319

00:57:00.000 --> 00:57:09.210

RAIJ: The top 10 states are colored in green the bottom 10 states are colored in red and kind of the rest of the other states are in black and this is separated by region.

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00:57:10.470 --> 00:57:18.540

RAIJ: You know, we actually found that, on average, for every 5% of baseline prep usage, you were likely to have another increase in the following year, so.

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00:57:19.020 --> 00:57:31.950

RAIJ: that's not what you want to see that basically means that disparities, you know state started close together and they're getting further apart the the quick adopting States just continue to have high at high end high uptake and the low states are not catching up.

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00:57:33.000 --> 00:57:36.720

RAIJ: You know the disparities between the high uptake in the low uptake states is increasing.

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00:57:38.250 --> 00:57:41.070

RAIJ: You know this was a brief, this is a brief report that's impressed.

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00:57:41.430 --> 00:57:50.520

RAIJ: And we've tried to think about what could be some of the differences in uptake so some of the states that have this like exponential growth, we think that social networks and pure effects are doing that.

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00:57:51.000 --> 00:57:57.480

RAIJ: We think there is geographic variability in the veil and the availability of prep clinics or clinicians will prescribe prep.

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00:57:57.810 --> 00:58:05.730

RAIJ: We know that medicaid expansion has been found to be associated with higher prep uptake we do think that our previous work on prior authorizations maybe playing a role.

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00:58:06.180 --> 00:58:13.320

RAIJ: there's also some exciting Tele prep programs going on, especially in like iowa, which is a Midwest state that actually kind of.

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00:58:13.860 --> 00:58:22.380

RAIJ: At the top of their group, and then there are people come up with these prep drug assistance programs, which are similar to the AIDS drug assistance programs, and here you can see a map.

329

00:58:22.830 --> 00:58:27.990

RAIJ: shading some of the colors that do have either partial prep assistance programs or full prep assistance programs.

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00:58:28.470 --> 00:58:39.210

RAIJ: And a lot of this work has been done by two now graduated masters students Sam powers and Christmas era camps so i'd like to give them a shout out for all their work on this.

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00:58:41.040 --> 00:58:49.260

RAIJ: And then you know, so we think you know some States are doing well with prep and maybe some States are lagging behind, but we know that now coven 19.

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00:58:49.950 --> 00:58:57.600

RAIJ: has had an impact on prep uptake so unfortunately we we've seen declines in the number of prep prescriptions, as well as the new prep users.

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00:58:58.020 --> 00:59:10.440

RAIJ: So it will be something we'll have to keep an eye on this was just presented at virtual Of course this spring we'll have to see what happens with this and whether this impacts new HIV cases or not.

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00:59:11.670 --> 00:59:15.990

RAIJ: So we're coming to the end, there are basically three take home points i'd like you.

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00:59:16.980 --> 00:59:25.200

RAIJ: To leave with today, so you equals you when a person with HIV has sustained viral suppression, they cannot transmit HIV sexually spread the word.

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00:59:25.860 --> 00:59:33.690

RAIJ: prep there is a pill that can prevent HIV and clinicians in the south, need to be thinking about prescribing prep, especially for black and Hispanic men who have sex with men.

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00:59:34.200 --> 00:59:41.130

RAIJ: And lastly, there's a specific there are specific policy actions that federal government or state government could take to help and the HIV epidemic.

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00:59:41.550 --> 00:59:53.670

RAIJ: I think just by throwing money at it, it might not be enough, we need to be thinking about you know aligning our policies to also get the outcomes that we want and with that Thank you and i'll take any questions.

339

01:00:03.060 --> 01:00:04.740

RAIJ: it's going to unmute themselves.

340

01:00:07.800 --> 01:00:10.350

RAIJ: Any questions in the room, Dr mcmanus.

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01:00:21.330 --> 01:00:22.440

RAIJ: I think that the.

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01:00:23.700 --> 01:00:35.610

RAIJ: The ending of HIV epidemic initiative, which was introduced under President trump has been pretty bipartisan, I think, maybe we'll see some bolstering of some of it, and maybe like some revamping of aspects of it.

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01:00:36.900 --> 01:00:45.690

RAIJ: But it actually is a pretty exciting program, so I hope it continues and maybe maybe take some of our suggestions and and get some of the health policies in line.

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01:00:57.690 --> 01:00:58.200

RAIJ: yeah.

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01:00:59.430 --> 01:01:08.250

RAIJ: Oh that's very nice um I would say yeah I think that, just like reading more about health policy, I think, is really important, and.

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01:01:08.910 --> 01:01:16.440

RAIJ: Really, the way I stumbled into this was reading about I was in carolyn engelhard health policy class during my masters in clinical research and.

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01:01:16.800 --> 01:01:24.600

RAIJ: read about these as drug assistance programs in White Papers like just like blogs and reports that people put out but they weren't in the literature.

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01:01:24.930 --> 01:01:36.000

RAIJ: I was wondering why this massive \$3 billion programmers be ignored, and so realize that the fact that it wasn't being studied was actually an opportunity to kind of dive into that so.

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01:01:36.330 --> 01:01:44.370

RAIJ: I think like following your curiosities and if you are interested in something like continue to follow it, and ask patients about their experiences.

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01:01:45.300 --> 01:01:54.510

RAIJ: In clinic I hear things every week that relate to the to the research we're doing and get ideas or hypotheses about what we can do to make things better.

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01:01:56.730 --> 01:01:56.940

RAIJ: yeah.

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01:02:17.910 --> 01:02:18.240

RAIJ: yeah.

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01:02:20.760 --> 01:02:28.440

RAIJ: that's a good question I don't think it was an abstract so we can't dive into it as much with like hopefully when they published the paper we'll see, but that would be a great.

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01:02:28.680 --> 01:02:40.830

RAIJ: suggestion that they compare it to other medications because, like you said everything's going to be down, although I think the one thing with HIV is that if you don't take your blood pressure medication it's going to impact you, but if you don't.

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01:02:41.970 --> 01:02:47.040

RAIJ: You don't take crap and you get HIV and you can do to have sex has public health implications so.

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01:02:50.190 --> 01:02:50.790

RAIJ: yeah.

357

01:02:51.900 --> 01:02:52.530

RAIJ: yeah.

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01:02:57.720 --> 01:02:59.220

RAIJ: provider relationship.

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01:03:00.720 --> 01:03:05.550

RAIJ: yeah I think the other thing with prep is like it's possible that people were just not having sex and so they didn't need prep.

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01:03:05.970 --> 01:03:15.240

RAIJ: So that's The other thing I think will be interesting to see like Okay, we see this reduction, but do we see increases in HIV cases or people knew they weren't at risk they didn't need to take the medicine.

361

01:03:17.310 --> 01:03:20.010

RAIJ: there's one question in the chat okay mm hmm.

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01:03:22.020 --> 01:03:24.750

RAIJ: Which new policy change do I think will have the most benefit.

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01:03:26.910 --> 01:03:33.750

RAIJ: I think that if we could get the answer assistance programs to actually kind of all moving the same direction.

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01:03:34.260 --> 01:03:43.140

RAIJ: That would be very powerful you know we've seen and now in three different states that the power of these aids drug assistance programs buying insurance for people.

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01:03:43.470 --> 01:03:46.410

RAIJ: I mean you can imagine, if you have HIV and you don't have insurance.

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01:03:46.830 --> 01:03:53.640

RAIJ: You can't get a colonoscopy you can't you can't go see that cardiologist you can get your HIV care because you can come to our Ryan white clinic.

367

01:03:53.940 --> 01:04:09.450

RAIJ: But you can't get comprehensive care, and I think that that probably impacts just the way people are able to engage in their health care, so I think if we could get the AIDS drug assistance programs to take care of more people by expanding their eligibility and.

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01:04:10.500 --> 01:04:18.540

RAIJ: get more people virally suppressed by getting people health insurance that would go a long way and we've also been told by the CDC that actually.

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01:04:19.230 --> 01:04:27.540

RAIJ: As we're working to end HIV epidemic that actually getting people with HIV virally suppressed is actually the most cost effective way to end HIV epidemic.

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01:04:27.840 --> 01:04:37.590

RAIJ: So it's kind of interesting that they're putting so much money into prep when actually maybe some of that money should be shifted into care of people living with HIV, so we can help people get virally suppressed.

371

01:04:43.290 --> 01:04:51.690

RAIJ: Okay, a long question towards the beginning of your presentation, you spoke about the effect of higher rates of patients who have had undetectable viral load in 2014.

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01:04:52.020 --> 01:05:03.570

RAIJ: And 2015 after our switchover was the year over year rate of HIV in the State of Virginia during this time I looked at, I asked this because there could be a fall off, that is, you could be looking at new population of patients.

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01:05:03.960 --> 01:05:08.940

RAIJ: were some of the sicker ones were lost to follow up and skewed the data, so we.

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01:05:11.040 --> 01:05:17.550

RAIJ: You have people could have fallen, we could have had people kind of since we're looking at the AIDS drug assistance Program.

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01:05:18.390 --> 01:05:26.730

RAIJ: There are people do have to do certifications and people do have to stay eligible for the program, so it is possible that we were looking at.

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01:05:27.720 --> 01:05:37.770

RAIJ: Different people in our year one versus our Year to study, but then in we at least kept the number of people constant for two years.

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01:05:38.460 --> 01:05:51.150

RAIJ: So, if someone was on a drug assistance program for those two years they were accounted for, so there is some turn in the program, but we do try to at least say you have to be in the program for two years.

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01:05:52.230 --> 01:05:59.700

RAIJ: But I think if we're looking at things over a longer period of time and we allow people to move in and out of the cohort that probably would be have a bigger effect.

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01:06:07.890 --> 01:06:09.240

RAIJ: Thanks everybody for attending.

380

01:06:14.070 --> 01:06:14.310

Thanks.