

A qualitative exploration of the barriers and facilitators of community pharmacy PrEP delivery for pharmacists and community members



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Main findings

- Pharmacy PrEP delivery is acceptable for pharmacy staff and community members
- To be feasible, a behaviour change intervention should address barriers and leverage facilitators to support implementation
- To increase capabilities and motivation, training and awareness raising for pharmacy staff and community members is needed
- To increase opportunities and motivation, environmental and system changes (e.g. facilities, financial reimbursement) are needed

Introduction:

- Location, stigma of sexual health clinics and lack of PrEP awareness limits PrEP access for key groups among whom new cases of HIV remain high.
- Previous research and the UK government suggests PrEP provision via community pharmacies as a potential way of improving PrEP access and health equity¹.
- Community pharmacy PrEP delivery requires behaviour change for pharmacy staff and clients.
- COM-B posits a behaviour requires capability (skills/knowledge), opportunity (social/environmental) and motivation (importance/intentions). COM-B enables the examination of internal and external behavioural barriers and facilitators.

Results: Facilitators addressing the barriers to pharmacy PrEP delivery identified from the interviews according to the COM-B.



Aim:

To explore barriers and facilitators of community pharmacy PrEP delivery, using the COM-B behaviour change model.

Methods:

Interviews with community members (n=24) at elevated risk of acquiring HIV and community pharmacists (n = 17). Interviews thematically analysed within the COM-B framework.

Reference: ¹ Harrison, C. Family, H. Kesten, J. Denford, S. Dawson, S. Scott, J. Sabin, C. Copping, J. Harryman, L. Cochrane, S. & Horwood, J. (2024). Facilitators and barriers to community pharmacy PrEP delivery: A scoping review. *Journal of the International AIDS Society*. 27(3)

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Capability (Am I able to do this?)

"We need the training in order to start even doing the conversations (about PrEP)" Pharm.

Opportunity (Is it possible in my environment?)

I live one minute away from a pharmacy. Pharmacy is a very local thing so that would make it a lot easier for people to get PrEP" YP.

Motivation (Is this important to me?)

"I think that (pharmacy PrEP delivery) would also be great because I feel it will be discreet in a way because going to a pharmacy you can be going to pick anything, not necessarily something related to sexual health, so I think it's a nice idea" TP.