

# Pharmacy-Based PrEP: St. Louis Example

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(Adapted from USCA 2017 presentation)



# PrEP in Pharmacies: Traditional Provider

- **Provider is nurse practitioner or physician assistant**
  - Following an initial PrEP consultation with a patient, Healthcare Clinic providers will be able to conduct tests for HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs), as needed.
  - Upon review of test results, providers will conduct a follow-up visit and may prescribe PrEP, as necessary.
  - Quarterly visits for HIV test and prescription refill
  - Walgreens has adopted this model

# **PrEP in Pharmacies: Clinical Pharmacist Provider**

- **Provider is a clinical pharmacist**
  - Responsible for initial and follow up consultations depending upon state laws
  - Information for this model comes from St. Louis, Missouri, Seattle, Washington, and Denver, Colorado pharmacies-based PrEP models
  - These models have demonstrated increased patient retention and increased return of investment

# Pharmacy-Based Model of PrEP: Necessary Elements

1. Collaborative Agreement between clinical pharmacist and doctor
2. Pharmacy staff
3. On-site laboratory testing (optional) and private physical space

# Cases Where Pharmacy-Based PrEP Care Can Serve the Uninsured

## PrEP Patient Case 1:

- 25 year old man who has sex with men has a friend who was recently diagnosed with HIV.
- He wants to see a doctor for PrEP very soon.
- He lost his job a month ago and is uninsured.
- Can be seen initially at Washington University in St. Louis Infectious Disease clinic and follow up at Gateway Apothecary.

## PrEP Patient Case 2:

- 32 year old female has a newly HIV-diagnosed male partner who is on treatment for HIV, but his HIV viral load is not undetectable.
- She had started PrEP 3 months ago when she had Medicaid and has paperwork-related delays in insurance renewal
- She can continue PrEP at Gateway Apothecary.

# Gateway Apothecary PrEP Services



- Program created in December 2016
- **Physician role:**
  - Initial visit, determine PrEP eligibility, prescribe, and referral to pharmacy
  - Initial visit must occur in the physician office for collaborative agreements in Missouri
- **Pharmacist role:**
  - Conduct all follow-up visits, refill medications, counseling
- **Nurse role (unique to Gateway Apothecary):**
  - Follow-up history, draws labs and uses i-STAT handheld machine (CLIA-waived) to process results, and offers counseling (risk reduction) and referrals (mental health, substance use, STI testing)

# Gateway Apothecary PrEP Services

Private room to provide PrEP care



Point-of-care creatinine test device to assess kidney function

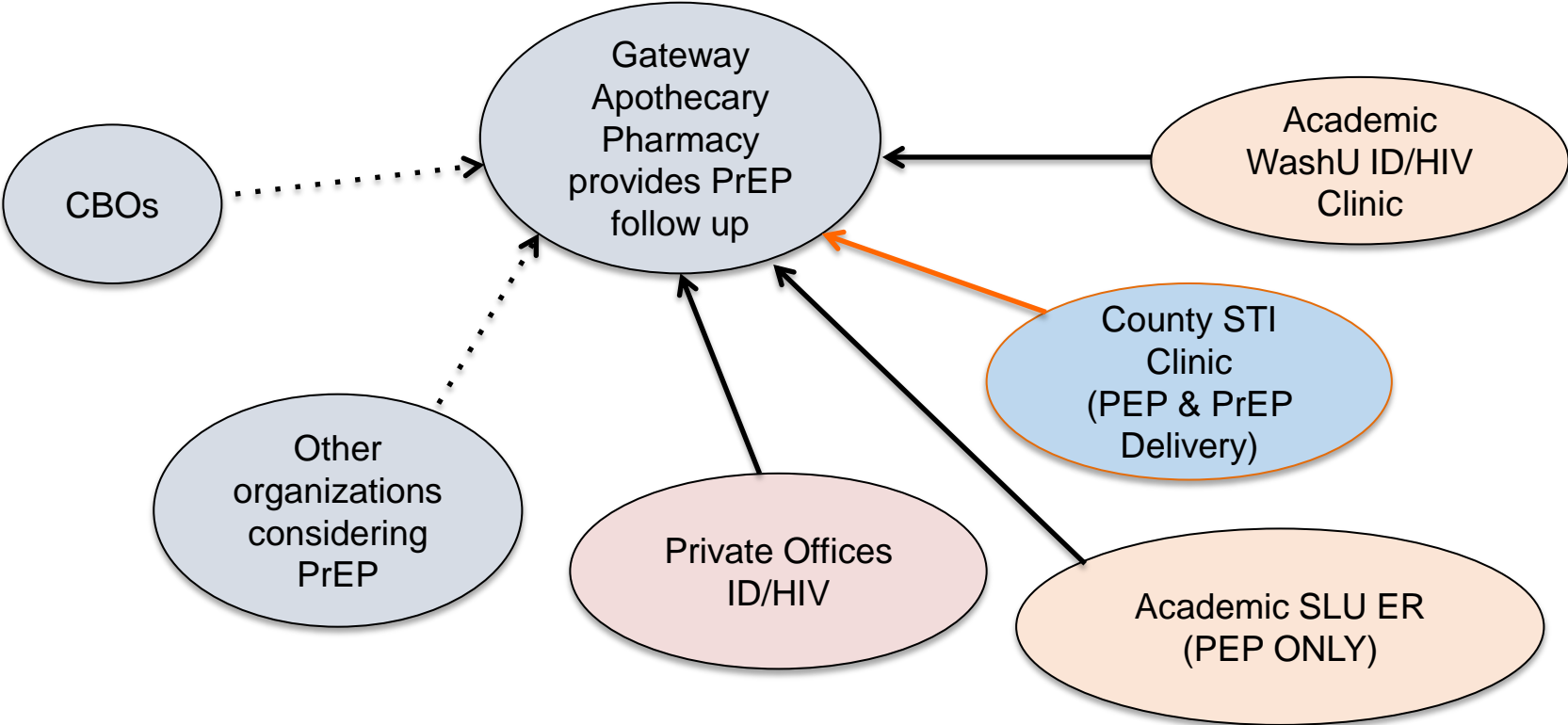


# PrEP with Comprehensive Services

- At the pharmacy, services that are offered are:
  - Condom distribution
  - Mental health and substance abuse referral (private, talk therapy, support groups)
  - STI testing at county health department and community-based organizations
  - Social service referrals (e.g. CAASTLC for workplace and home support)
  - Onsite risk reduction counseling
  - Preventive services (e.g. vaccines)
  - Primary care referrals
  - Other services available as needed



# Pharmacy-Based PrEP Generates Access Points for Uninsured/Underinsured in St. Louis



# Summary

- **Pharmacy-based PrEP care with the provider as a clinical pharmacist** is feasible where trained and willing staff are available
- Legal authority via establishment of a collaborative practice agreement or other mechanism is essential
- Future directions include advocating for policies and leadership that foster the scale up of pharmacy-based PrEP care

# Acknowledgements

- PrEP users
- Pharmacy staff
- Clinic staff

