Section 1: Introduction

Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) effectively prevents HIV acquisition. However, the Southern United States has disproportionate HIV prevalence, with many not using PrEP efficiently. This study compared knowledge scores of prescribers who prescribed versus did not prescribe PrEP in the past 12 months. Prescribers had significantly lower knowledge scores than non-prescribers. PrEP-related beliefs, efficacy, and necessity were more likely to be associated with the likelihood of prescribing. Providers need further education to improve HIV prevention in practice.

Section 2: Methods

A cross-sectional survey of TN Primary Care Providers (PCPs) was conducted from March-August 2019. The survey included questions on practice and provider characteristics, PrEP knowledge, and attitudes. The study was exempted by Vanderbilt’s Institutional Review Board.

Section 3: Results

A total of 99 prescribers were included in the study. The majority of prescribers were general practitioners (62%). The mean knowledge score was 79%. Prescribers who prescribed PrEP in the past 12 months had significantly higher knowledge scores compared to those who did not prescribe PrEP.

Section 4: Discussion

Interventions to increase PrEP prescription among primary care providers are crucial to improve HIV prevention in TN. Community-based efforts to improve patient awareness of PrEP may help prompt PrEP discussions with their patients and increase PrEP prescription. Limitations: responses bias/social desirability, patient may respond to questions to look favorable to researchers.

Section 5: Conclusion

Providing training and education is critical to facilitating PrEP prescription. Future directions: Utilize designs to read an educational intervention to improve PrEP uptake among PCPs in TN.

Section 6: Acknowledgements

The National Institute of Health grant for REDCap (UL1 TR000445) and Dr. Pettit (R01MH113438) are acknowledged for their contributions.

REFERENCES


Author Information

Emily Moore, BS, Sean Kelly, MD, Leah Alexander, MPH, PhD, Patrick Luther, MHS; Robert Cooper, PhD, Peter Rebeiro, PhD, Autumn Zuckerman, PharmD, Margaret Harragenaes, PhD, Kassem Bourgi, MD, David Schindler, PhD, and Margaret Hargreaves, PhD, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, TN, and Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Division of Infectious Diseases, Nashville, TN, and Meharry Medical College, Nashville, TN, and Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Specialty Pharmacy Services, Nashville, TN, and Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN, and Vanderbilt University, Psychological Sciences, Nashville, TN.