

ASPIRE

A Study to Prevent Infection
with a Ring for Extended Use

Jared Baeten, MD PhD
Thesla Palanee, PhD
On behalf of the ASPIRE team

MTN Regional Meeting, Cape Town
4 October 2012



MTN-020 / ASPIRE





Overview

- Background and rationale
- Design and objectives
- Timelines
- Optimizing implementation



Background and Rationale

Antiretrovirals for HIV protection

- Right drug

(safe, effective, potent)

- Right place

(sufficient concentrations at site of exposure)

- Right time

(present when exposed, user-independent adherence)

Tenofovir-based PrEP for HIV prevention: success and challenges

- During the past two years, large studies of oral and topical tenofovir-based PrEP have demonstrated efficacy for HIV protection:

Trial	PrEP regimen	Population	Reduction in HIV risk
CAPRISA 004	Peri-coital tenofovir gel	Women	39%
iPrEx	Daily oral FTC/TDF	Men who have sex with men	44%
TDF2	Daily oral FTC/TDF	Young heterosexuals	62%
Partners PrEP	Daily oral TDF and FTC/TDF	HIV serodiscordant couples	67% (TDF) 75% (FTC/TDF)

Truvada® for HIV prevention



Consumer Health Information
www.fda.gov/consumer

FDA Approves First Medication to Reduce HIV Risk

“It is still better to prevent HIV than to treat a life-long infection of HIV.”

Deborah Birnkrant, director of the
Division of Antiviral Products, US FDA,
16 July 2012

ASPIRE
A Study to Prevent Infection
with a Ring for Extended Use

Tenofovir-based PrEP for HIV prevention: success and challenges

- However, not all trials of tenofovir-based PrEP have found HIV protection:
 - No efficacy for daily oral FTC/TDF in FEM-PrEP trial and for daily tenofovir gel and daily TDF in VOICE study, both studies of women with high HIV incidence
- Across PrEP studies, adherence is likely an important driver of HIV protection

Developing a range of options for antiretroviral-based HIV prevention



Pill



Gel



Vaginal film



Vaginal ring



Injectable

- ✓ Truvada PrEP is critical first proof on a future pathway.
- ✓ Ultimate goals: multiple options, long acting, safe, effective, low cost and user-friendly
- ✓ Maximize choice & optimize effectiveness

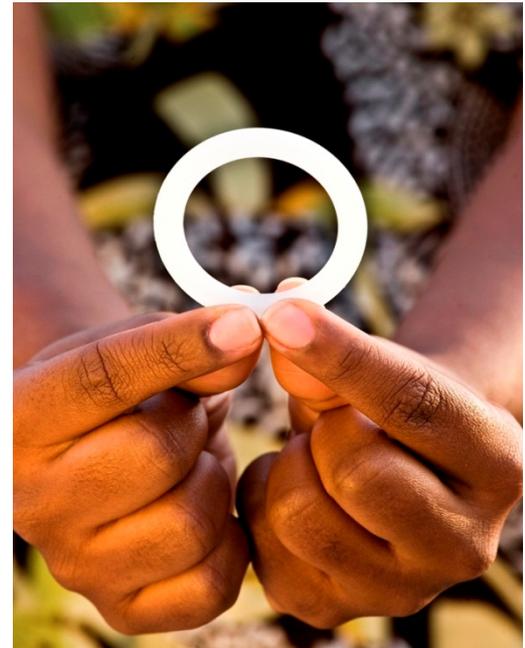
Dapivirine ring

- Dapivirine is a non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor
- Flexible ring made of an elastic silicone material
- Measures 56 mm (about 2 ½”) in diameter and 7.7 mm (¾”) thick
- Designed for 28-day use
- International Partnership for Microbicides (IPM) providing both the placebo ring and the dapivirine ring for the study



Dapivirine ring for HIV prevention

- Dapivirine ring has shown safety and acceptability in phase I and phase II trials *but its large-scale safety and its effectiveness for HIV protection are unknown*
- MTN-020, in concert with the entire dapivirine package, will provide strength of evidence to support potential licensure

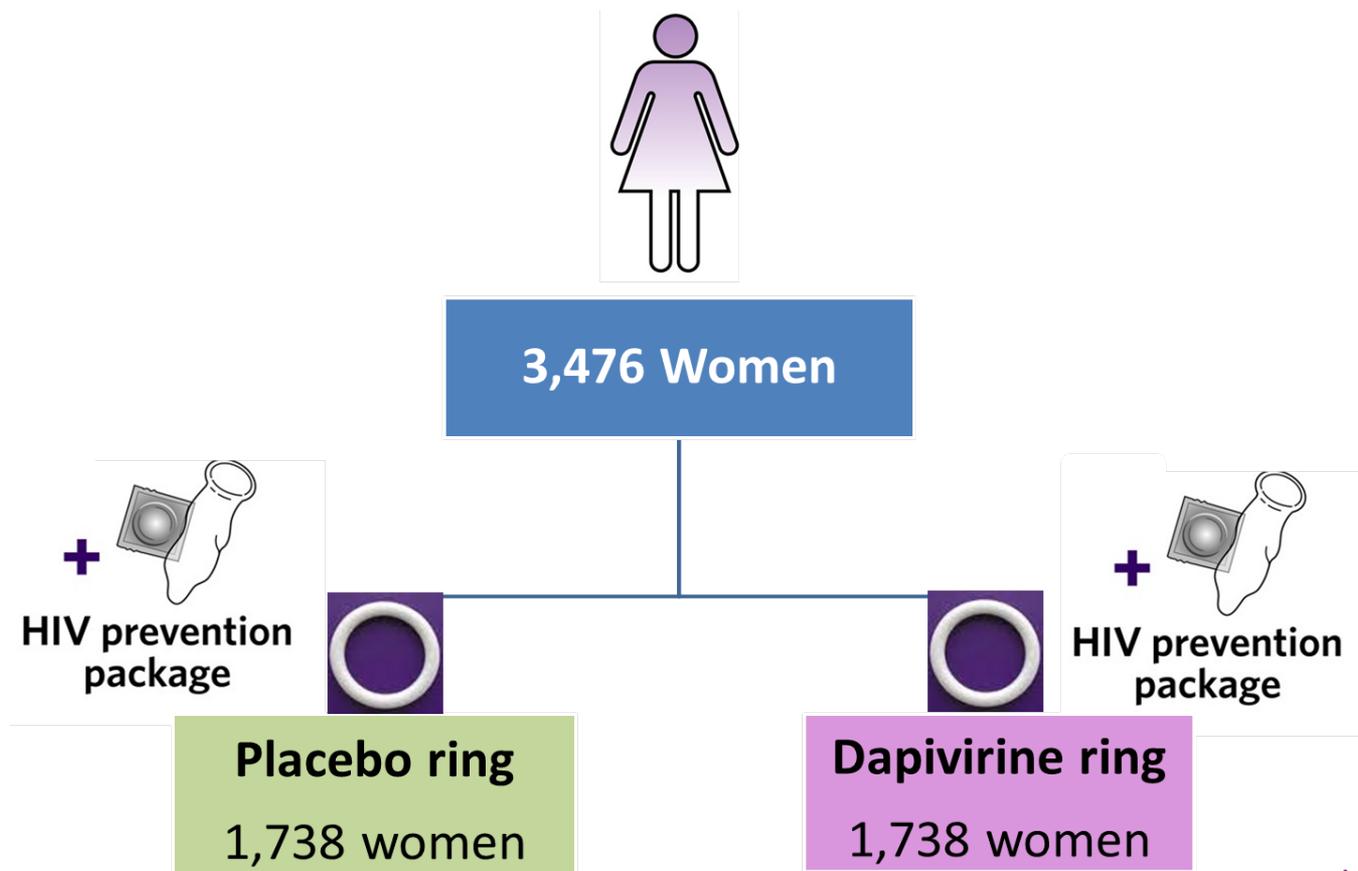


Study Design and Objectives

MTN-020 / ASPIRE

- **A Multi-Center, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Phase III Safety and Effectiveness Trial of a Vaginal Matrix Ring Containing Dapivirine for the Prevention of HIV-1 Infection in Women**

ASPIRE Study Design



Design

- N=3476 (~4400 person-years)
 - sexually active, HIV-uninfected women who are non-pregnant, contracepting, aged 18-45 years
- Accrual over approximately 12 months, with total study duration approximately 24 months
 - Designed so that all participants will achieve 12 months on study product
- Monthly follow-up
 - HIV testing, contraceptive counseling/provision, safety monitoring

Objectives

PRIMARY

- Safety and effectiveness for HIV-1 prevention

SECONDARY

- Acceptability, adherence, resistance, PK/PD

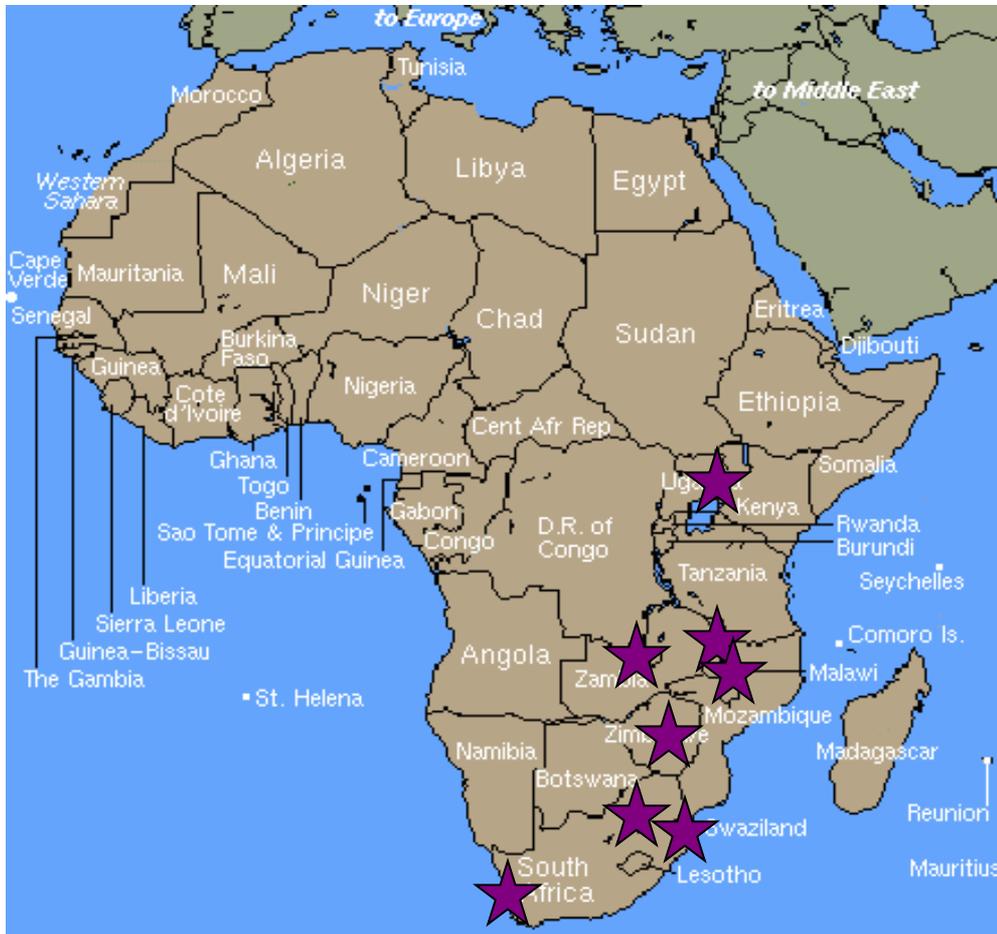
EXPLORATORY

- Genital microenvironment, adherence vs. PK, delayed seroconversion

Protocol

- Version 1.0 : DAIDS approval 27 September 2011
- LoA#01 (7 November 2011)
 - Timing of pelvic exam schedule, samples to be collected and tests to be completed on vaginal samples
 - Clarification on collection of plasma and testing for CD4 and HIV PCR after seroconversion
 - Approved at all sites
- LoA #02 (19 April 2012)
 - Allows for continuation of vaginal procedures in pregnant women
 - Clarifies timing of vaginal fluid collection, plans for collection of used rings for testing
 - Addition of in-depth interviews and focus group discussions (subset of sites)

Proposed sites



Blantyre
Lilongwe
Malawi

Cape Town
Durban (7 sites)
Johannesburg
South Africa

Kampala
Uganda

Lusaka
Zambia

Harare (3 sites)
Zimbabwe

Timelines

ASPIRE to date

- January - March 2011
 - Concept approved by MTN Executive Committee
 - Protocol Consultation Meeting with Site Investigators
- May – July 2011
 - NIAID SWG, PSRC
- September 2011
 - v1.0 to sites for IRB submission
- October 2011
 - Community Consultation, Operational Walk-Through
- January 2012
 - DSMB protocol review
- June, July 2012
 - First site training (Cape Town), first activation (Kampala)
- August 21, 2012
 - First enrollment (Kampala)

Site activations

Site	Date of activation	Site	Date of activation
MA – Blantyre	APPROVALS PENDING	SA – MRC/Verulam	28 AUG 2012
MA - Lilongwe	APPROVALS PENDING	SA – MRC/Umkomaas	28 AUG 2012
SA – Cape Town	4 SEP 2012	SA – WRHI	POISED
SA – CAPRISA eThekwini	13 SEP 2012	UG – Kampala	19 JUL 2012
SA – MRC/Botha’s Hill	28 AUG 2012	ZA – Lusaka	APPROVALS PENDING
SA – MRC/Chatsworth	28 AUG 2012	ZI – Seke South	POISED
SA – MRC/Isipingo	28 AUG 2012	ZI – Spilhaus	POISED
SA – MRC/Tongaat	28 AUG 2012	ZI – Zengeza	POISED

Enrollments (27 SEP 2012)

Site	First enr	# scr	# enr	scr:enr ratio
SA – Cape Town	19 SEP 2012	5	3	1.7
SA – CAPRISA eThekwini		1	0	-
SA – MRC/Botha's Hill	10 SEP 2012	39	14	2.8
SA – MRC/Chatsworth	11 SEP 2012	27	11	2.5
SA – MRC/Isipingo	19 SEP 2012	13	4	3.3
SA – MRC/Tongaat	17 SEP 2012	25	5	5.0
SA – MRC/Verulam	13 SEP 2012	33	8	4.1
SA – MRC/Umkomaas	14 SEP 2012	26	13	2.0
UG – Kampala	21 AUG 2012	52	35	1.5
TOTAL		221	93	2.4

Timeline

2011

- Initiate site IRB and regulatory approval process

2012

- IRB/regulatory approvals, trainings, enrollments begin Q3

2013

- Enrollments and follow-up continue

2014

- End of participant follow-up

2015

- Results

Clinical development program for dapivirine for HIV prevention

- To date, 25 phase I/II trials of dapivirine (in oral, gel, and ring form) have been conducted
- Trials have demonstrated high safety for topical dapivirine
- Agency reviews (FDA/EMA) have permitted move to efficacy evaluation
- In parallel to MTN-020, IPM will conduct IPM 027 – focus on extended safety plus efficacy

MTN-020 and IPM 027

	<u>MTN-020</u>	<u>IPM 027</u>
Design	endpoint driven	fixed time
No. of participants	3,476	1,650
Randomization	1:1	2:1
Age	18-45 yrs	18-45 yrs
Product use period	Until end of study (12-24 months)	24 months fixed
Person-years follow-up (all / Dapivirine Vaginal Ring)	4,396 / 2,198	3,150 / 2,100
HIV-1 seroconversions	120	80
Power for 50% effect	97%	83%



Key Considerations for Optimization of Implementation



Operational Focus = The Big Five

Accrual

Adherence

Retention



**Data Quality
and Timeliness**

**Clinical and
Laboratory
Participant
Safety**



Umkomaas



Operational efficiencies (1)

- Accrual
 - Modest sample size = achievable number of recruitments
 - Enrollment goal = those who will return as scheduled for follow-up

- Follow-up
 - Streamlined data collection and study procedures = reduced time spent in clinic
 - Allowances for efficiencies for individual women – protocol provisions for extra ring dispensing and off-site visits

Operational efficiencies (2)

- Retention
 - Focus from day one from participant one : resource and attention allocation will be critical
 - *No retention = no adherence*

- Provision of services on-site
 - Contraception : expanding method mix and convenience
 - Contraceptive Action Team efforts
 - Partner HIV testing, STI evaluation/referral

Operational efficiencies (3)

- Focus on efficiencies
 - Coordination within oversight team: FHI360, Regional Physician, PPD

- Communications
 - Weekly protocol team management calls (W, 6 AM Pacific)
 - Weekly priority emails from FHI360 to sites – collating protocol team priorities; biweekly calls
 - Monthly team calls = site-driven exercises – sharing experiences
 - Listservs : cross-site communications/sharing

Numbers that matter

- 3476 = total number of women enrolled
- >95% = retention, product distribution
- 100% = attention to data quality, safety

Everything else flows from these

IT TAKES A TEAM



Malawi College of
Medicine – JHU
Research Project



UNC Project -
Malawi



INTERNATIONAL
PARTNERSHIP FOR
MICROBICIDES



University of Zimbabwe,
School of Medicine



Acknowledgements

MTN is funded by NIAID (5U01AI068633), NICHD and NIMH, all of the U.S. National Institutes of Health

