

## BACKGROUND

- The HPTN 084-01 trial evaluated the safety, tolerability, and acceptability of long-acting injectable cabotegravir (CAB LA) for HIV prevention among adolescent girls in Africa.
- Adopting effective pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV may reduce the concern for HIV acquisition but may lead to increased frequency of sexual behaviors associated with risk of acquiring other sexually transmitted infections (STIs).
- We sought to identify evidence of changes in sexual behavior following PrEP initiation within this cohort.

## METHODS

- HPTN 084-01 enrolled HIV negative adolescent girls aged 12-17 years from 3 sites in South Africa, Uganda, and Zimbabwe who reported sexual activity with a male in the prior 12 months, were willing to use effective contraception and able to provide assent with parent/guardian consent.
- Participants completed a 5-week lead-in of oral cabotegravir then received injectable CABLA at weeks 5, 8, 1, 2, and 33.
- Data on self-reported sexual behavior was assessed at study weeks 0, 4, 5, 9, 17, 25, and 33 by Computer Assisted Self-administered Interview.
- Sexual behavior responses considered to be associated with increased risk of acquiring other STIs were:
  - 1) use of a condom at last vaginal sex act = No [Condomless vaginal sex (CVS)]
  - 2) number of sexual partners in past month = more than 1
  - 3) transactional sex in last month = Yes
- Change in frequency of condomless vaginal sex (CVS), number of sexual partners and transactional sex over time was assessed through generalized estimating equations.

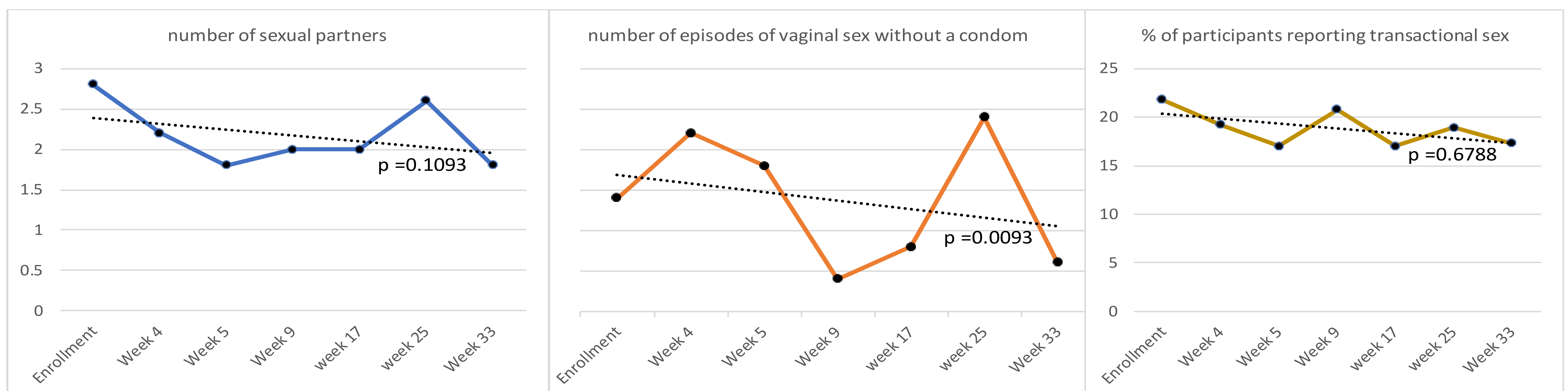
**We observed declines in sexual behaviors associated with increased risk of acquiring other STIs. This is consistent with other PrEP studies and confirms that HIV prevention trial participation provides benefits beyond access to medical interventions like PrEP.**



## RESULTS

- In total, 55 adolescents were enrolled with a median age 16 years.
- At study entry:
  - Median number of episodes of vaginal sex in the prior month – 2 (IQR 1-4)
  - Transactional sex – 12/55 (22%)
  - Median number of male partners in the prior month – 1 (range 1-30)
  - More than one male partner – 16/55 (29%)
  - Mean episodes of CVS in the prior month – 1 (sd 2.1)
  - Condomless vaginal sex (CVS) – 26/53 (49%)
- Between weeks 0 and 33, modest but not significant declines were observed over time in sexual behaviors associated with increased risk for other STIs (See Figure 1):
  - Number of sexual partners: average change – 0.3 partners (95% CI – 0.61, 0.06. p=0.1093)
  - Number of episodes of CVS: average change – 0.6 episodes (95% CI – 1.03, -0.14, p=0.0093)
  - Percentage participants reporting transactional sex (p=0.6788)

**Figure 1: Absolute number over time (mean number of sexual partners, mean number of episodes of vaginal sex without condom, and percentage of participants reporting transactional sex in the prior month)**



## CONCLUSIONS

- In this cohort of African adolescent girls initiating CAB LA for PrEP, we observed declines sexual behaviors associated with increased risk of acquiring other STIs.
- This is consistent with other PrEP studies and confirms that HIV prevention trial participation provides benefits beyond access to medical interventions like PrEP.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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