



AIDS Supplement: Family Planning and HIV

Call for Papers

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In 2009, FHI 360 - with support from USAID - collaborated with the journal *AIDS* to publish a supplement dedicated to increasing understanding of the various ways in which the family planning and HIV fields intersect. This supplement originated from the belief that more evidence was needed to compel funders, policymakers, program planners and implementers to act on the synergies between the two fields and enhance the public health impact of reproductive health and HIV programs. The final product was a compilation of high-quality evidence from a range of multidisciplinary efforts to advance family planning/HIV science and practice.

In 2013, we can point to great improvements in the linkages between family planning and HIV policies, programs, and services. For example, PEPFAR now endorses family planning as an important part of a combination prevention response to the HIV epidemic. From a variety of settings, novel approaches to integrate family planning and HIV services have been reported by Ministries and Health and implementing partners. And, evidence that integrated family planning/HIV services improve health outcomes is growing.

On top of this momentum, the family planning and HIV fields each had watershed moments during the past year. In July 2012, at the groundbreaking London Summit on Family Planning, funders, government leaders and other partners committed to expanding access to contraception and rights-based family planning services to an additional 120 million women and girls. In November 2012, the PEPFAR Blueprint: Creating an AIDS-free Generation was released, articulating the U.S. Government's bold commitment to saving lives and achieving an AIDS-free generation.

Stronger linkages between family planning and HIV programs are critical to making these ambitious goals a reality. Despite improvements, many women still face the dual risk of unintended pregnancy and HIV acquisition. Moreover, important gaps in knowledge and programmatic shortcomings pose obstacles to progress. Our understanding of integrated service delivery best practices is limited, rates of unintended pregnancies among women living with HIV remain high, and the question of an association between hormonal contraception and HIV acquisition is unresolved. To capitalize on the opportunities that currently exist to advance reproductive health and HIV outcomes, an urgent need exists to take stock of what more we have learned about how to address the contraceptive needs and protect the reproductive rights of women and couples living with and at risk of HIV.

This supplement of *AIDS* will focus on the intersection between the family planning and HIV fields. Databased manuscripts are preferred. Submissions may include but are not limited to:

- Biomedical research addressing the relationship between reproductive health and HIV acquisition, transmission, and disease progression, including the effects of use of hormonal contraception
- Behavioral research examining contraceptive practices and fertility desires of women and couples affected by HIV
- Implementation science research evaluating service delivery approaches to integrating family planning and HIV services
- Data-driven policy, research, and programmatic commentaries

Manuscripts should be submitted to Rose Wilcher at rwilcher@fhi360.org and should conform to the guidelines for authors available at <http://edmgr.ovid.com/aids/accounts/ifauth.htm>.

They should be accompanied by a cover letter mentioning this call for papers. All submissions will be subject to the journal's usual peer review process, and selected articles will be published.

For questions about this supplement, please contact Rose Wilcher at rwilcher@fhi360.org or 919-544-7040 x11406.

AIDS publishes the very latest groundbreaking research on HIV and AIDS. Read by all the top clinicians and researchers, AIDS has the highest impact of all AIDS-related journals.

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