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Photo: PATH

# Trans-forming PrEP in Vietnam: Rethinking service delivery to enhance access among transgender women

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# Evolution of key population community-led HIV and health care

**From 2014** – an evolution of key population (KP) community-led HIV/health care.

**Role?** Defining, co-creating and leading campaigns, online-to-offline reach efforts, direct HIV service delivery, and implementing and monitoring continuous quality improvement (CQI) efforts.

Reach



Test



PrEP



ART



**KP-led health services: first one stop shop clinic model in 2016** offering integrated HIV, STI, viral hepatitis, TB, and mental health services

Assessing needs

Design

Implementation

CQI

12 KP clinics and counting



# Transgender women risk perception, PrEP awareness and uptake

18%

HIV and syphilis prevalence measured among transgender women in Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC)\*

61%

Self-assessed as being at high risk for HIV\*\*

69%

Of transgender women said they had heard of PrEP while 7.6% had ever used PrEP\*\*\*

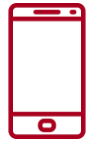
3.4

Transgender women enrolled on PrEP on average each month in the first 18 months of PrEP roll out (March 2017 - September 2018)



# Description – Offering gender-affirming PrEP

Transgender women leaders, key population-clinic staff and the USAID/PATH Healthy Markets team co-formulated and advanced three key actions:



**Online and offline engagement:** Directly addressing hormone-PrEP drug interaction concerns through online content, engagement with TGW peer PrEP experts (online and in-person), and small events that enabled Q&A with TGW peer PrEP experts and health workers.

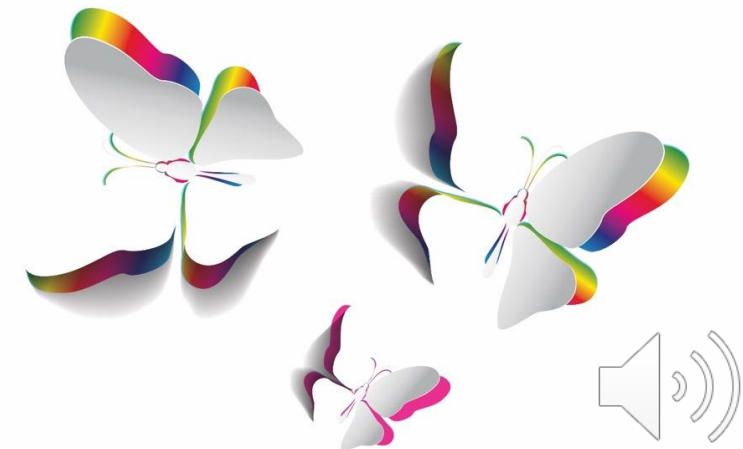


**Training and coaching:** Tangerine Clinic/Academy-led training of PrEP clinic staff and community providers in transgender competent care.

## New services:



- Offering routine hormone level testing and use counseling at PrEP clinics.
- Referral to gender-affirming surgery specialists.
- Substance use & mental health assessment and support.
- Ongoing HIV services (testing, PrEP/nPEP, ART, STI).



# Strengthening a TGW-led CBOs and TGW-friendly clinic ecosystem through co-creation and technical collaboration



## 5 private clinics (3 in HCMC and 2 in Hanoi)

- 4 clinics are key population owned and led
- 1 clinic in KP-friendly private clinic in Hanoi
- **Transgender women lay health workers employed by clinics and provide dedicated counseling and support to clients**



## 4 transgender-led CBOs

- offer hormone counseling, HIV testing, PrEP screening, and link to clinical services



# Increasing information on PrEP and hormone use





USAID  
TƯ NHÂN DÂN MỸ



PATH  
10::AO+//100

# Free hormone testing promotion @ the 5 participating clinics

*Dùng hormone đúng cách,  
tự tin là mình!*

**MIỄN PHÍ** GÓI XÉT NGHIỆM  
NỒNG ĐỘ HORMONE  
CÓ GIÁ LÊN ĐẾN **300.000VNĐ!!!**

Địa chỉ: Phòng khám Light - Lô 38 - Tòa nhà Light 1  
The Premier, Ngõ 100 Dịch Vọng Hậu, Cầu Giấy, Hà Nội  
Hotline: 098 117 5959

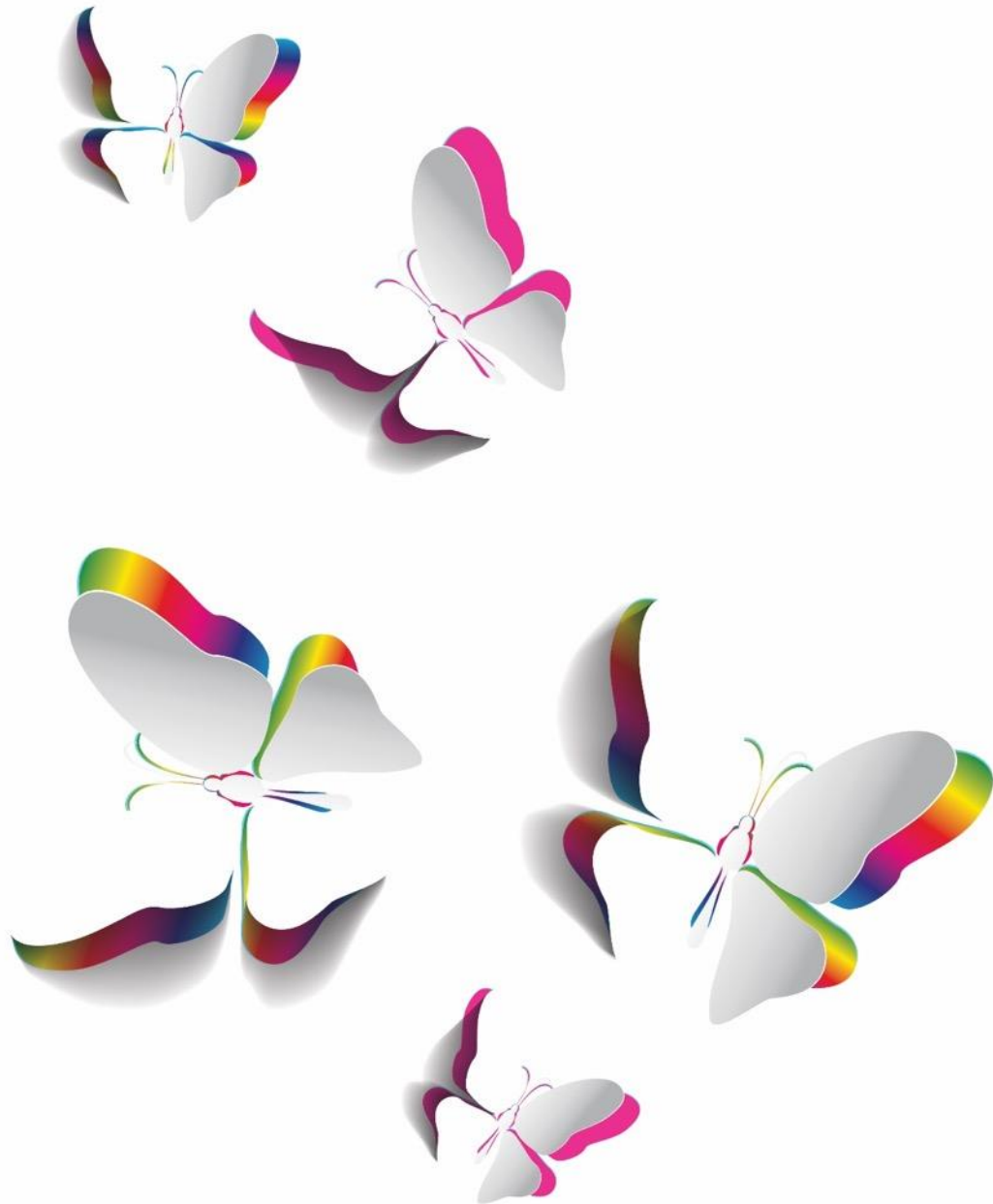


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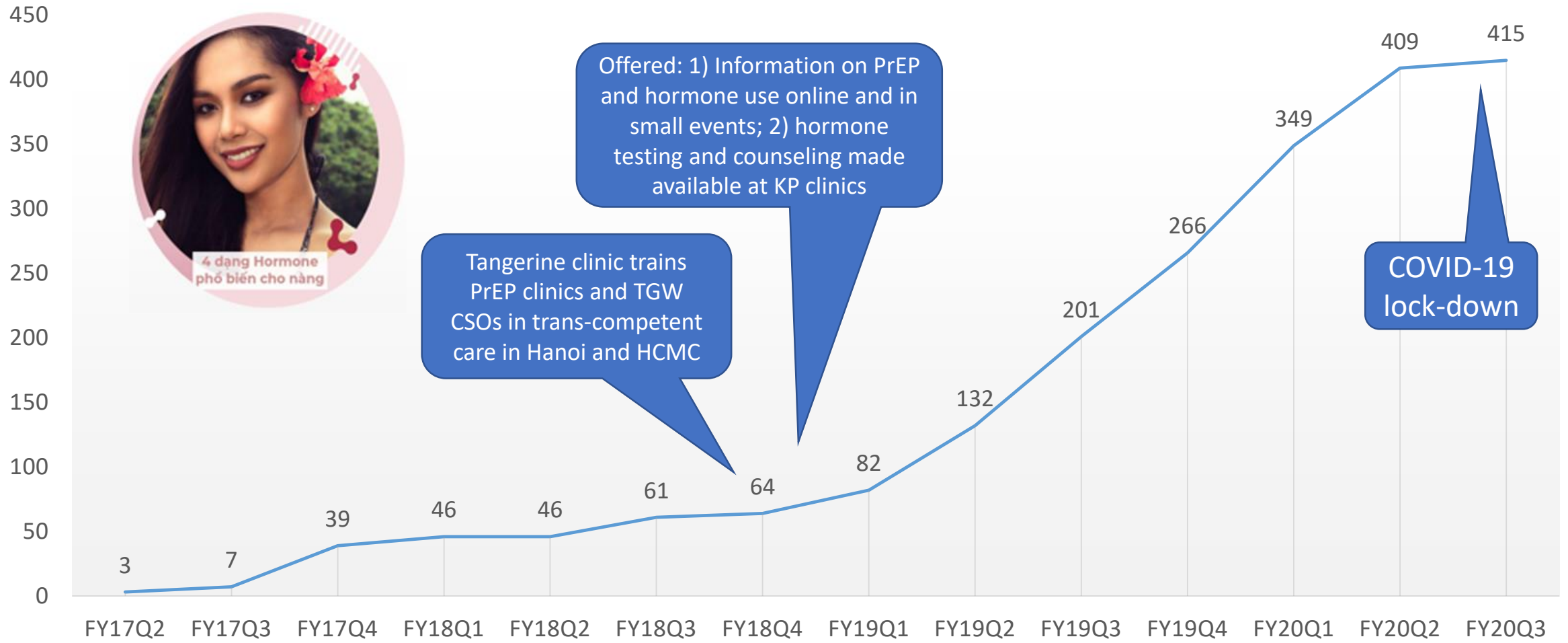
# Lessons learned





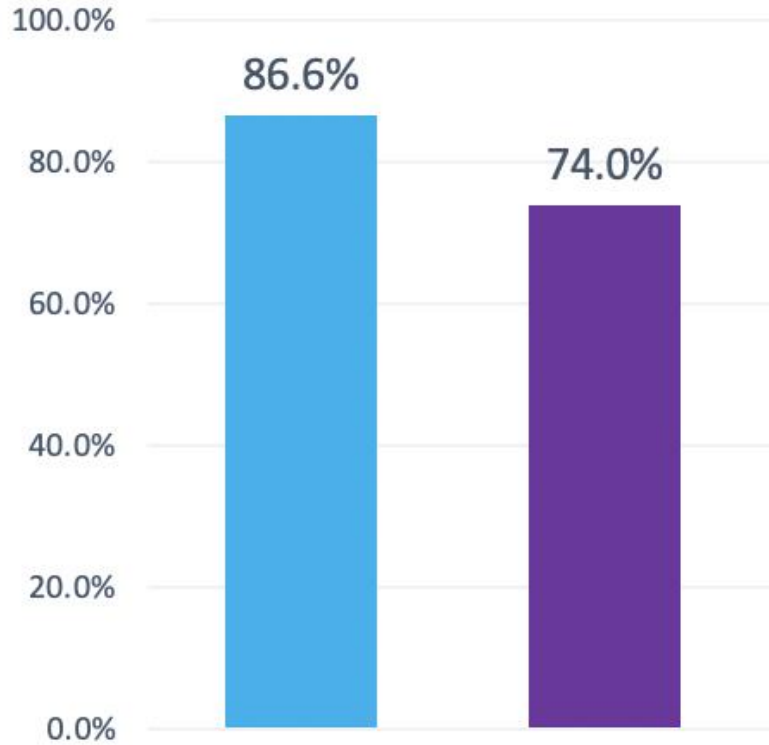
# PrEP uptake before and after integration of gender affirming services

Change in PrEP uptake among TGW at GLink, Galant, My Home & Bien Viet

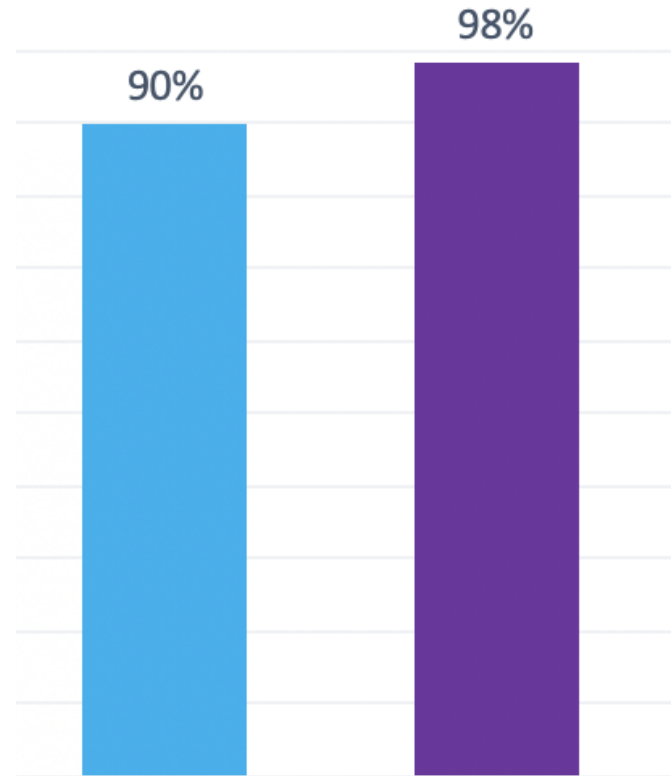


# Month 3 PrEP refills among transgender women have improved

Month 3 PrEP refills, FY19



Month 3 PrEP refills, FY20 – Q1&2



■ MSM ■ TGW



# Conclusions & next steps

- To ensure PrEP is acceptable and accessible to transgender populations in Vietnam, services that aim to reach them **need to offer trans-competent care** and address underlying concerns among transgender populations about PrEP use.
- **It is also essential that transgender populations be engaged as service providers** and leaders at PrEP clinics to ensure that the care offered resonates with their needs; and that **transgender owned and led clinics are established** in Vietnam.
- The results presented today are being used to inform the **development of national guidelines in Vietnam** on HIV service delivery among transgender populations which will be essential to guide further expansion of gender-affirming care.



# Huge acknowledgement and thank you to...

Co-authors: Nguyen Tan Tu<sup>2</sup>, Hoang Vu<sup>3</sup>Mai Cau, Tham Thi Tran<sup>1</sup>, T. Minh Thi Nguyen<sup>4</sup>, Tuan Anh Duong<sup>5</sup>, Ngo Minh Trang<sup>6</sup>, Vu Ngoc Bao<sup>1</sup>, Ngo Huu<sup>1</sup>, Doan Hong Anh<sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup>PATH, HIV & TB, Hanoi, Vietnam, <sup>2</sup>My Home, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, <sup>3</sup>Vietnam Network of Transgender People, Hanoi, Vietnam, <sup>4</sup>Vietnam Administration of HIV/AIDS Control, HIV & TB, Hanoi, Vietnam, <sup>5</sup>Venus, Hanoi, Vietnam, <sup>6</sup>USAID, Hanoi, Vietnam



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Thank you!

