HPTN 035

Phase II/IIb Safety and Effectiveness Study of the Vaginal Microbicides BufferGel and 0.5% PRO 2000/5 Gel (P) for the Prevention of HIV Infection in Women

MTN Regional Meeting

May 2007

HPTN 035 Study Sites

- Blantyre, Malawi
- Durban, South Africa
- Harare and Chitungwiza, Zimbabwe
- Hlabisa, South Africa
- Lilongwe, Malawi
- Lusaka, Zambia
- Philadelphia, USA

Some numbers: selected milestones

- 3 sites have completed accrual
- 4 current QC rate per 100 CRF pages
- 80% coital acts involve gel use currently
- 90% participants retained to date
- 2800 participants enrolled
- 5500 participants screened
- 30,000 lab specimens archived
- 177,000 CRFs completed
- 520,000 condoms shipped to sites

Selected Discussion Topics

- Adherence to gel use
- Informed consent process
- Reproductive health & pregnancy outcomes

Adherence to Gel Use

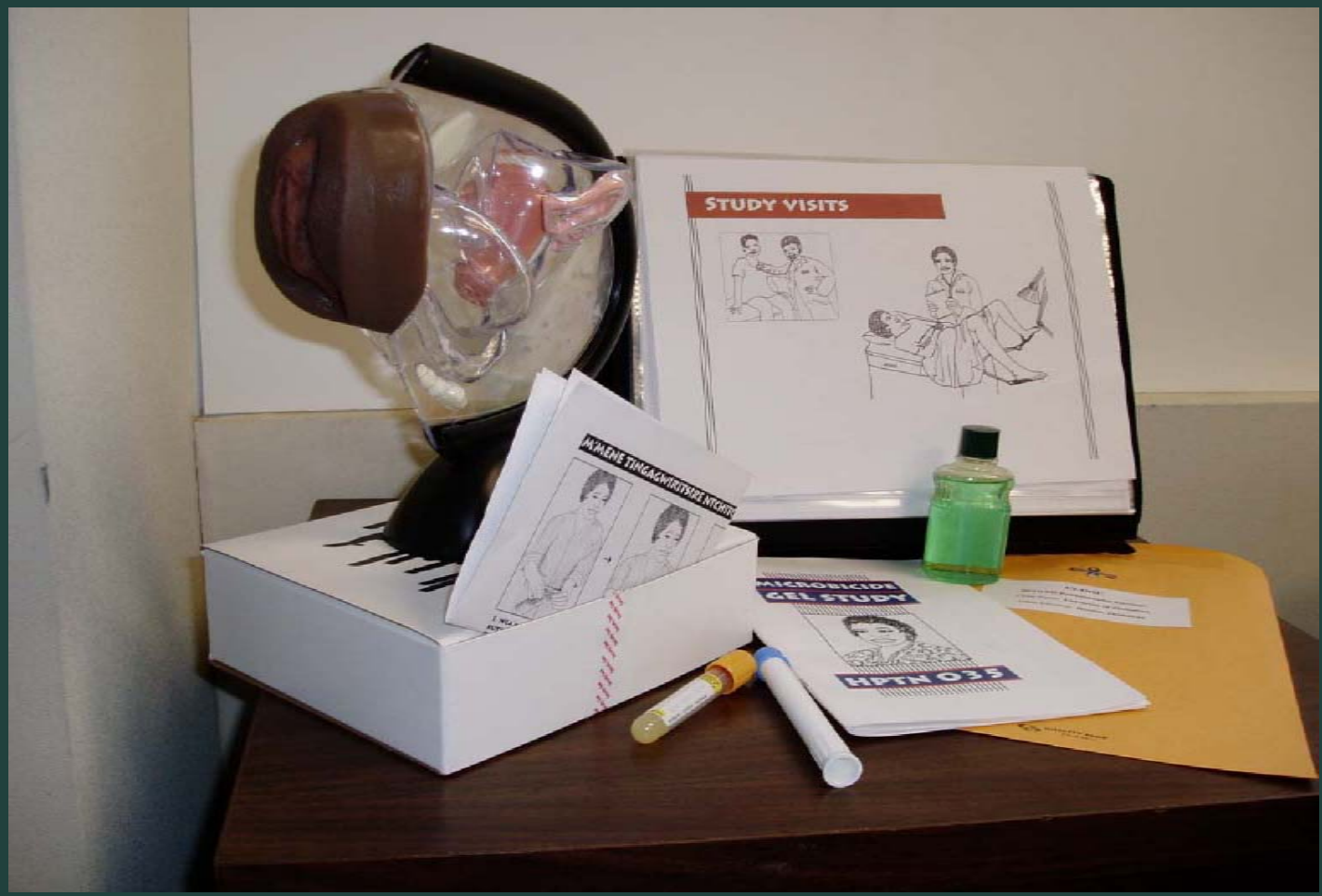
Date	% Gel Use Overall	% Gel Use in Acts With a Condom	% Gel Use in Acts Without a Condom
Oct-05	73	84	47
Jan-06	72	80	53
Apr-06	74	82	57
Jul-06	75	82	60
Oct-06	77	83	64
Jan-07	78	83	68
Mar-07	79	83	71
May-07	81	83	78

NB: In May-07, when excluding visits on product hold, gel was used in 85% of acts with a condom and 83% of acts without a condom.

HPTN 035 Informed Consent Process

- Two step process — screening and enrollment
- Enrollment process is semi-standardized
- Common procedures manual followed at all sites
- Common materials developed for all sites
- Procedures and materials developed with site/community input
- Translated into local languages

Informed Consent Materials



HPTN 035 Informed Consent Process

- Site SOPs define use of materials and steps in the process
- At most sites, group counseling/education takes place first
- At all sites, individual discussion – using the informed consent form and other materials – forms the basis of the informed consent process
- At all sites, comprehension is assessed prior to enrollment

HPTN 035 Enrollment Informed Consent Comprehension Checklist, Version 1.1 (12 April 2006)

PTID: Date:

	Open-Ended Question/Statement	Required Points of Comprehension	✓	Comments
1	Please describe your understanding of the purpose of the study.	study is testing two experimental gels		
		testing to learn if gels are safe		
		testing to learn if gels may prevent HIV		
		study may not prove gels work		
2	What do you understand that you are being asked to do in this study?	asked to use condoms and perhaps gel with each act of vaginal sex		
		have pelvic exams and HIV tests		
		come for monthly visits for up to 30 months		
		not get pregnant in next 30 months		
3	What do you understand about possible risks that might happen as a result of being in the study?	gel may irritate skin inside or outside vagina		
		gel may have other side effects		
		possibility of social harms		
4	What will happen if you do not join the study?	free to make her own decision about joining		
		no effect on access to care when decide to join or not		
5	Please tell me about the different groups of women in the study.	there are different gels		
		not everyone receives a gel		
		no one knows who receives which gel		
6	How will the information about you be protected?	participant information is kept under lock and key		
		only people working on the study have access		
7	What are the benefits to you of participating in this study?	counseling, condoms, tests, clinical care, benefit to science or community (should mention at least one from ICF)		
8	What should you do if you have any questions about what is happening in the study?	must articulate how to contact study staff		

Outcome:

- ☐ Demonstrated comprehension of all required points, decided to enroll in study.
- ☐ Demonstrated comprehension of all required points, decided NOT to enroll in study.
- ☐ Demonstrated comprehension of all required points, deferred enrollment decision to another visit.
- ☐ Did not demonstrate comprehension of all required points (yet), needs more time/discussion, rescheduled for another visit.
- ☐ Unable to demonstrate comprehension of all required points, consent process discontinued.
- ☐ Other (specify): _____

Staff Signature:

Optional Comment Categories:

a. Answered correctly on first try

b. Could not answer at first, but answered correctly after some probing/discussion

c. Answered incorrectly at first, but answered correctly after discussion

d. Not able to answer correctly at this time

e. Other (describe)

HPTN 035 Comprehension Assessment

- Each point is ticked when study staff determine the participant understands that point
- Additional open ended probing may be used to confirm/clarify comprehension of each point
- Enrollment may not occur unless/until comprehension of all points is demonstrated
- Multiple sessions may take place if needed
- Informed consent process overall has been successful, but is time-consuming
- Illiteracy & requirement for witness - challenge

Reproductive health

- All participants are provided ongoing contraceptive counseling and encouraged to use highly effective contraceptive methods
- Highly effective contraceptive methods are available free of charge at all sites, through direct provision or “nearby” referrals
- Pregnancy rates declined over time, from ~20 per 100 py to ~13 per 100 py currently

Pregnancy outcomes

- 243 pregnancies to date
- 97 participants still pregnant
- 146 pregnancy outcomes
  - 78 (53%) live births
  - 41 (28%) spontaneous abortions
  - 23 (16%) therapeutic/elective abortion
  - 6 (4%) fetal deaths/still births

Conclusion

- Study well on track
- Outstanding accomplishments
- Gel adherence in absence of condoms has improved steadily
- Consent process very detailed with comprehension assessment
- Monitoring pregnancy outcomes challenging but important