

UK-CAB 83: BHIVA and CROI conferences feedback

The Blue Sky Trust, The Castlegate, Melbourne Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 2JQ

Thursday 27 April 2023

Meeting report

1. Introduction:

Nicoletta introduced the meeting and welcomed everyone. The UK-CAB online training was highlighted and members urged to register to attend the ongoing module 2. Members can catch up on all module 1 sessions from the website.

2. BHIVA conference feedback:

2.1 John Jaquiss gave a summary from the conference with the following highlights:

- a. Navigating the pandemics: Susan Hopkins highlighted the similarities between the Spanish flu, COVID and HIV.
- b. Real focus on health inequalities
- c. HIV and resistance – drug resistance
- d. Review of sexual health and blood borne viruses
- e. Opt out HIV testing - should also be set up in GP to encourage more testing.
- f. Importance of language in healthcare. Negative language should be avoided such as lost to care, risky behaviour, recreational drugs, Chemsex, consent, etc. The People First Charter has information about positive language and can be downloaded [here](#).
- g. Sex education in schools - It is important to also use positive messaging when speaking to school about HIV. The meeting discussed when this should start. Some schools still feel that HIV is not relevant in their curricular.
- h. Joined up care was discussed if its working; who is in control? This depends on an individual. People are dropping in and out care.
- i. PROMS – clinics could use an iPad to keep a closer eye on things in real time.

2.2 Leasuwana Griffiths' BHIVA highlights

- a. BHIVA Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) research results showed the need for engagement and empowerment of women and other members from racial minorities.
- b. CHIVA hidden voices session discussed talking to health care professionals and going to adult care and community. The transition process is challenging. Young people still need to talk about sex and feeling safe. They feel nurses 'do not have time' and are driven by tasks therefore losing their caring side. Young people deal with healthcare differently at 25 and need peer support.

3. CROI conference feedback – Roger Pebody

Highlights include: ([see slides here](#)).

- a. Using antibiotics to prevent STIs as PrEP or PEP.
- b. Monkeypox in people with low CD4 counts. Sophia Forum commented about the poor monkeypox care for HIV positive women in Brazil. They present with advanced HIV due to lack of access healthcare. The UKHSA still recommends vaccinations for monkeypox.
- c. Tenofovir rapid adherence test using urine to get real-time data on adherence, inform counselling, offer support and improve viral suppression.
- d. Cabotegravir/rilprivine injections for patients who have challenges taking pills, including substance abuse, housing and food security and stigma.
- e. Injectable PrEP for gay and bisexual men and transwomen.
- f. Injectable PrEP cisgender women in sub-Saharan Africa.
- g. Looking into the future: Lenacapavir and bNabs.

Discussions:

- Adherence: What does adherence mean in 2023? We should talk about people who are stopping medication and see how they can be supported.
- DoxyPrEP for women: Is this working? Is the drug absorption the same for rectal and vaginal infections? Are there different doses?

4. U=U video – Angelina Namiba and Susan Cole

- a. The video explains the meaning of U=U. See [video here](#):

5. Together for the journey – Becky Walker

- a. Becky shared information about services provided by The Blue Sky Trust in Newcastle and surrounding areas. See [slides here](#):

6. Reaching women through research and community led programs - Sophia Forum

- a. An introduction into who and what the Sophia Forum does. See [slides here](#):

7. 4M Mentor Mothers Making Magic: Personal Professional Development for Prevention and Peer Support – Angelina Namiba

- a. An introduction to the work of 4M. See [slides here](#):

8. Members discussion: What's next for the UK-CAB – led by Nicoletta Policek

- a. Members wanted to know what it means to be a community rep? How do members know what rep roles are available?
- b. Mina K suggested that the UK-CAB should be more visible. Do we need to re-brand – who are the UK-CAB, what are our aims?
- c. The website has been re done and is more user friendly.
- d. The UK-CAB online training was highlighted as good basic training for members to understand how the UK-CAB works.
- e. Members would like to have a meeting in Belfast.

9. Date of next meeting: face to face in early August in London.

10. Attendees:

| | Name | Organisation |
|----|-----------------------|--|
| 1 | Abbey Stanford | NAM Aidsmap |
| 2 | Angela Barroso | 4MNET |
| 3 | Angelina Namiba | 4M Network of Mentor Mothers |
| 4 | Becky Walker | Blue Sky Trust |
| 5 | Damian Kelly | UK-CAB |
| 6 | Esther Ndungu | 4M Mentor Mothers |
| 7 | Ian Watson | Blue Sky Trust |
| 8 | Jo Josh | BHIVA & UK-CAB Steering Group |
| 9 | John Jaquiss | UK-CAB, BHIVA, THT |
| 10 | Larry Gurney | Blue Sky Trust |
| 11 | LeaSuwanna Griffith | Positively UK |
| 12 | Mary Renner | Blue Sky Trust |
| 13 | Mel Rattue | HIV Psychosocial Network, THT, FCTI London |
| 14 | Memory Sachikonye | UK-CAB |
| 15 | Michael Gray | Blue Sky Trust |
| 16 | Michael Marr | Waverley Care |
| 17 | Mina Kakaiya | Positive East |
| 18 | Nicoletta Policek | UK-CAB chairperson |
| 19 | Par Gustafsson | Body Positive Dorset |
| 20 | Paul Brain | Blue Sky Trust |
| 21 | Roger Pebody | NAM |
| 22 | Samantha Dawson | Body Positive Dorset |
| 23 | Sarah Magambo | Blue Sky Trust |
| 24 | Simon Horvat Marcovic | Positively UK/UK-CAB/THT |
| 25 | Sophie Strachan | Sophia Forum |
| 26 | Stephen Hart | The HIV Hour radio show & Hart Talks youtube channel |
| 27 | Teresa Fatima Djako | Blue Sky Trust |
| 28 | Toby Palmer | Blue Sky Trust |
| 29 | Vicky Lomas | Plushealth |
| 30 | Will Daglish | LHPF Patient Forum |