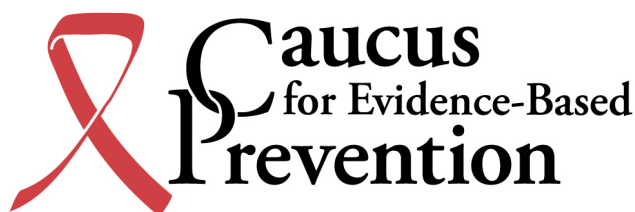


MEDIA ADVISORY

May 15, 2008



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Congressional Briefing: New Options for HIV Prevention

The Caucus for Evidence-Based Prevention and AIDS Advocacy Coalition are presenting “New Options for HIV Prevention: The Continuing Need for Research Investment,” a roundtable discussion and briefing on Capitol Hill, Thursday, May 22.

Nearly a quarter of a century after the start of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, AIDS kills more people worldwide than any other infectious disease. The United Nations estimates that over 2.5 million people were newly infected with HIV worldwide in 2007. The development of and investment in new HIV prevention options is urgently needed.

In recent months, there have been various reports highlighting the results of the clinical trials of several of these new prevention options, in particular vaccines, microbicides, the diaphragm, male circumcision, and HSV-2 suppressive therapy. While many of these reports have shed light on the results, there is still confusion among the larger research, advocacy, policy and media communities about what the outcomes of these trials mean for future HIV prevention research.

The AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition and the Caucus for Evidence-Based Prevention will be hosting this briefing to help Congress, the media and the broader community understand the scientific details of these clinical trials and the implications for future research. This critical and timely event will provide a “state of the field” of HIV prevention research, identifying where this research is headed in the future, and the importance of sustaining our investment in the development of these potentially life-saving technologies.

WHEN: Thursday, May 22, 2008, 9:00-10:30 am

WHERE: Room B340, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC

PARTICIPANTS:

- Mitchell Warren, Executive Director, AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition
- Carl Dieffenbach, Director of the Division of AIDS at the National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), National Institutes of Health (NIH)
- There will also be a moderated panel discussion with a collection of researchers and advocates working across HIV prevention research internationally.

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Comprised of dozens of diverse organizations, the Caucus for Evidence-Based Prevention monitors the use of evidence in HIV prevention programs and policies, reports on HIV prevention related conference proceedings to a wide audience, and alerts the community when ideology prejudice or opinion interfere with evidence-based approaches to reducing the further spread of HIV/AIDS.

www.hiv-prevention.org