

# Women Use PrEP Too!!

## Biological Distinctions of Prescribing PrEP

### Presenter Biographies

**Jenna Alarcon:** Graduated with a BS from California State University of Dominguez Hills in Community Health Science. After graduation she worked at Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute in the Division Infectious Diseases as a study coordinator. Over the summer she had an internship at Children's Hospital Los Angeles where she worked in the HIV prevention program under Miguel Martinez working with the PEP and PrEP work group of Los Angeles County. Jenna is currently in her second year at the University of California Los Angeles in their Master of Public Health program with a focus in Community Health Science and will be graduating in June of 2017.

**Dr. Gifty-Maria Ntim** is a physician board certified both in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics "Med-Peds." She is currently Assistant Clinical Professor at UCLA and was previously the medical director of APLA Health. She is co-principal investigator on the PrEP Adherence Enhancement Guided by iTAB and Drug Levels for Women through APLA Health. Originally from Ghana, Dr. Ntim is a graduate of St. George's University School of Medicine in Grenada. She completed her residency training at the Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans where she was the Chief Resident in "Med-Peds." She is passionate about empowering patients and communities to achieve high levels of health and wellness. Her professional interests are broad and include eliminating health disparities and improving patient self-management of chronic medical conditions.

**Dr. LaShonda Spencer** is an Infectious Diseases Specialist, Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Medical Director of MCA Clinic, and Director of Education for the Pediatric Infectious Disease Fellowship Program at LAC+USC Keck School of Medicine. Dr. Spencer provides primary HIV care to pediatric/adolescent and adult patients, including pregnant women, as well as PEP/Prep services at the MCA program. Her areas of research interest are HIV and prevention of Maternal to Child transmission, HIV disease in Women and Adolescents, Prevention of HIV in young women. Her current research projects include Antiretroviral Concentrations in breast and genital compartments, as well as several International Maternal Pediatric Adolescent AIDS Clinical Trials Group sponsored studies in addition to studies on antibiotics in resistant organisms in pediatric infectious diseases. Dr. Spencer is a member of the

Los Angeles County Commission on HIV and several other community public service organizations.

**Roxanne Lewis** is the Program Coordinator for Health Alternatives for Reducing the Risk for HIV Program at JWCH Institute Inc. Ms. Lewis has extensive knowledge on practical application of behavioral theory, harm reduction models, working with challenging clients experiencing multiple morbidities and HIV prevention for women. As a teen, she volunteered with Camp Laurel, a camp for children infected and affected with HIV. Roxanne has presented at the Harm Reduction Coalition annual conference, the National Association of Case Manager's Conference, and the CDC HIV Prevention Conference.

In September 2012 she became the chair of the Universal Condom Workgroup Los Angeles. She has successfully trained over 150 providers, clinicians and other health staff about proper female condom demonstration and use.

She has collaborated with many agencies bringing pivotal program to underserved clients throughout Los Angeles Project Los Angeles bringing HARRP to one of their first sites in SPA 6. As an active collaborator Roxanne has worked with agencies from across Los Angeles to enhance services for women throughout the County. Roxanne supports and participates in the Los Angeles Women's HIV Task Force, the Service Provider Network of SPA4 and 6.