# GIRL POWER IN DEPTH INTERVIEW SUMMARY

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| **DATE OF INTERVIEW** | 13/Feb/17 |
| **Visit**  | * 6 Month (0)

\_\_ 12 month (1) |
| **PARTICIPANT ID** | 11002 |
| **Clinic number** | 1  |
| **DURATION OF INTERVIEW** | Start: 10:58 End: 11:05 |

**Transcript**

[Initial sections redacted]

I: Okay that’s good news. Have you ever heard of the drug called PREP?

P: Prep?

I: Yes

P: I have just forgotten, but I have.

I: What have you heard in relations to PREP?

P: Isn’t PREP the medicine that. Okay I have forgotten can you please remind me

I: Maybe you have heard of the drug called PEP.

P: ooh Yes, I have heard of PEP, it is a drug…

I: umm

P: It is a drug that.

I: Okay PEP is a drug that someone takes when they have been raped.

P: Uhuh!

I: Or they have been exposed to the HIV disease in one way or another, some may have been raped or the nurse while they were working they have injected a person with Aids and they have also cut themselves with the same needle, there other people that refuse to be injected so while they were refusing there is blood everywhere so you find yourself that it has happened already so you take PEP to protect yourself

P: Okay.

I: So you have to start taking PEP before 48 hours’ elapses and you keep taking it for a month, so that you can protected your body. But PrEP is a new drug that is coming in the future, it is already in some countries and people have already started taking it, this drug helps in the prevention of the HIV disease. The people that take PrEP are the people that have gotten tested and they have been found HIV negative but with the way things are happening in their life or the way they are living they can get infected with the HIV at any time. Or we can say they are at high risk, so they go to the clinic and get this drugs and they take them to protect themselves from the virus. They are taking this medication so that if they meet someone who has the HIV disease or and the virus has gone into their body by accident, the virus does not multiply in their body as a result they do not get the disease. On the other hand, a person who already has the virus and has been given on ART, cannot say that they have stopped taking ART to start taking PrEP, no! this is only for a person who does not have HIV so they would like to protect themselves. With the way you have heard about this drug, has this information caught your attention or not?

P: It has caught my attention to the point that I can ask a question, if you had sex with someone who already has the disease and you have gotten it, but you have been taking the medicine for quite some time and the virus is failing to multiply, so that one virus that entered your body, that is failing to multiply where will it go? Doesn’t that mean you already have it?

I: No, the virus has not taken a place in your body one virus can not cause an infection. For one to have HIV the virus in the body has to multiply.

P: ooh

I: if it enters, it just proceeds’ it does not settle down in your body. So can we say your interest in these drugs is high or low on these drugs?

P: It is high, and also on the side of the medication you have said PEP

I: PREP

P: No, PEP, the first one, not the one coming but the one that is already here

I: Yes PEP is already here.

P: Yes, and you have had sex with someone who has HIV let’s say yesterday and three days have passed then you take, will it still work?

I: They can still give you, maybe it would work by chance because they increased up to 74 hours so maybe on the last day so it may work but my advice is that if you have been raped or you doubt the person you have had sex with, it is good to go to the hospital immediately i.e. the same day.

P: umm

I: Go to the clinic and tell them you need PEP

P: Is it only found in government hospitals?

I: It is found everywhere including private pharmacies, but they do not want people to deliberately engage in risky behavior thinking that they will get PEP at the clinic, so a lot of people do not know about this drug because they do not want people to abuse this drug.

P: umm.

I: If you fail to get them at the hospital you go to the pharmacy, just tell them that you want PEP, and you can buy for yourself.

P: Okay

I: So I want to know, if you were given a chance to take PREP would you take it?

P: Yes I can take.

I: From what you have heard what do you like about the drug?

P: It has made me happy, because if I have slept with someone who is not my boyfriend, when we are through with each other we are through and that person can leave me while I am still okay, instead of leaving me with the disease that would be a problem but if you have taken these drugs then you leave each other properly.

I: The way you have heard about the drug, has anything about this drug worried you in anyway?

P: Yes, am worried like as I was asking earlier what if I started taking the drugs while it already started multiplying but the virus can look like it is hidden but then it will eventually multiply. Because if they take the drug monthly and there is like a dosage so if you do not take for that day the virus can work.

I: Of course if u already have the virus that means you are already infected but PrEP is for people who do have virus. How can this drug affect the relationship?

P: They (PrEP) would bring chaos, because someone will go and do other things knowing that they will take these drugs so it can be chaotic. (Screams “(Name of stuff) is flashing you” someone answers okay then a short silence)

I: What if the week after you start taking these drugs you started feeling dizzy or you wanted to vomit after eating, can you continue taking this medication?

P: No I cannot continue, because I would not be at peace with them, because when you take something and you start having other problems that means you won’t be able to work, what if you go to the market and fall at the market people will be wondering if you are pregnant or what. So they would bring you other problems so I would stop.

I: So you would stop huh?

P: umm.

I: How should the drugs be packaged so that they are acceptable and also be kept a secret by the people who are taking these drugs?

P: They should be in a carton that is properly sealed, because some people would like to open and see how they look like, so they should be closed and also put in something that is sealed.

I: Okay, since the youth find it hard to remember things and these drugs need to be taken daily during the period the person is at risk, so what can the youth do to make sure they remember to take these drugs.

P: Maybe if they wrote a time table like the one you write when you want to study, writing it and putting it up somewhere or putting the drugs near so that they can remember, but putting them in the bag u can realize that you have forgotten.

I: Yes, you can forget. Okay, since these drugs are there to protect people from HIV and condoms are also there to protect people from HIV, how can you compare or differentiate the two?

P: They are different because one wears a condom and one drinks the drugs, so you can see that condoms sometimes it is not reliable so you can choose one of the two that should help you.

I: What would be the best place to receive these drugs?

P: That would be like what I have explained at the youth side, because if it was like at this clinic it would be like they are encouraging the act of having sex aimlessly, so that when they do that they should take the drugs.

[Final sections redacted]