# Introduction – HIV, Violence, and Mental Health: CETA Webinar

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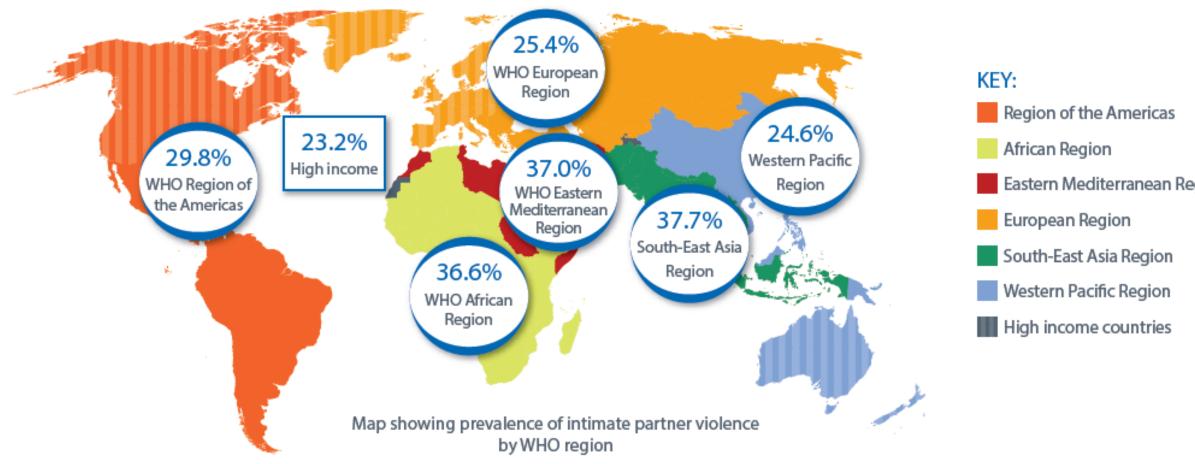
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## Global Data on Gender-based Violence

# 1 in 3 women

throughout the world will experience physical and/or sexual violence by a partner or sexual violence by a non-partner



Eastern Mediterranean Region

#### **Global Data on Violence**

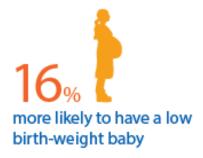
#### **HEALTH IMPACT:** Women exposed to intimate partner violence are

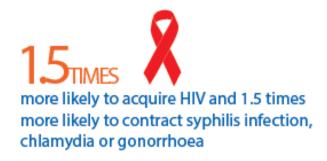
Mental Health





Sexual and Reproductive Health





ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE
AGAINST BOYS ARE
SIGNIFICANTLY ASSOCIATED
WITH NEGATIVE MENTAL HEALTH



2/3 of boys who experienced sexual violence report mental distress later in life.

Source: https://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/violence/VAW\_infographic.pdf

Source: https://www.togetherforgirls.org/the-issue/

# **Paths Leading from Violence to HIV**



#### **Direct Transmission**

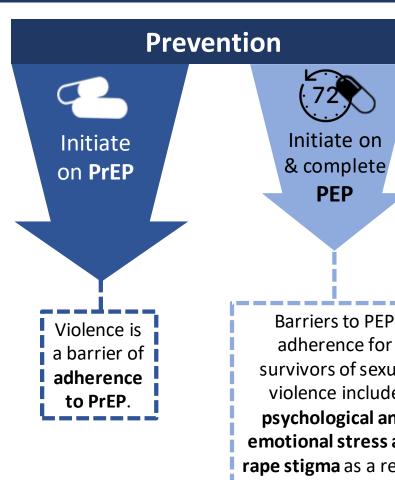
- Forced sex
- STIs

#### **Indirect Transmission**

- Early sexual debut
- Compromised condom negotiation
- Multiple partners
- Delayed HIV testing
- Reduced access to SRH
- Transactional sex



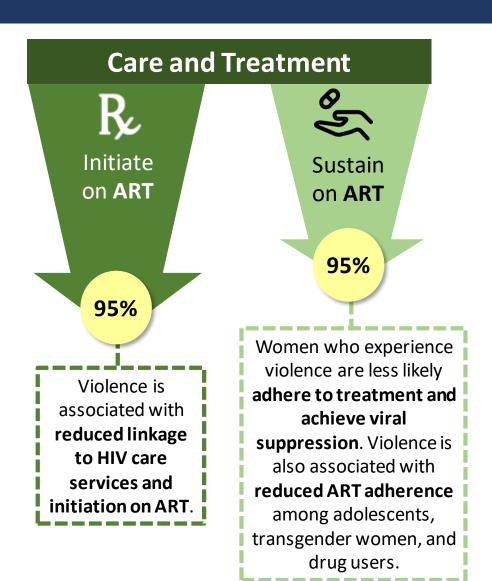
## Violence and the HIV Clinical Cascade



violence include
psychological and
emotional stress and
rape stigma as a result
of the assault.
Survivors may also
delay in accessing PEP
after an assault due to
fear of reprisal attacks
from perpetrators.



Violence and harmful gender norms inhibit one's ability to access testing services and disclose their status. Many people report fear of violence and/or abandonment if their partner learns their status.



\*Slide credit: Emily Reitenauer; USAID

### **Mental Heath and the HIV Cascade**

Persons with preexisting mental disorders, including depression, are at increased risk of HIV infection

Recent findings estimate 24% of PLHIV in sub-Saharan Africa suffer from depression

Mental health conditions impact adherence

One study showed the odds of adhering to care was 83% higher for participants who receive mental health services

Source: Patel P, et al. Noncommunicable diseases among HIV-infected persons in low-income and middle-income countries: a systematic review and meta-analysis. AIDS. 2018;32 Suppl 1:S5-s20. Source: Passchier RV, Abas MA, Ebuenyi ID, Pariante CM. Effectiveness of depression interventions for people living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa: a systematic review and meta-analysis of psychosocial & immunological outcomes. Brain, Behavior & Immunity. 2018;73:261-73.

# Living with HIV and Violence and Mental Health

# Living With HIV

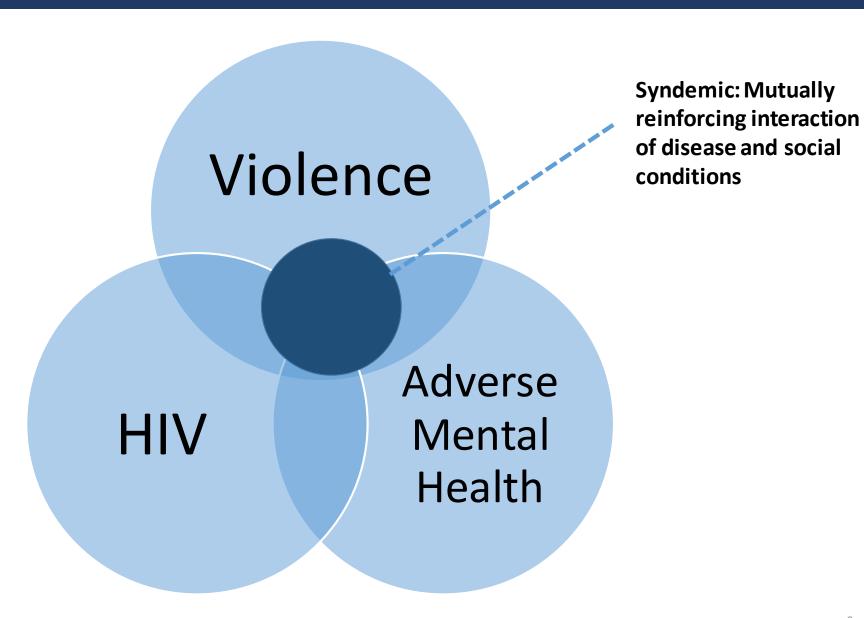
May increase vulnerability and exposure to physical, sexual, emotional, and economic abuse

Disclosure may trigger violence

May increase stigma by partner/family/self

May increase risk for developing mental health conditions

# Syndemic of HIV, Violence, and Mental Health



## PEPFAR COP 19 Guidance on GBV and Mental Health Programming

"Mental health services can be integrated into HIV programs across the prevention, care, and treatment cascades....." Page 391

"Service providers should be trained to screen for and provide low-intensity psychological interventions." Page 391

"Provide comprehensive and age-appropriate clinical post-GBV care that meet the expressed needs of survivors. This should include... interventions that help improve the mental health and psychosocial functioning of survivors." Page 312

"Capacitate both providers and IPs on counseling and psychosocial support to better meet the mental health needs of GBV survivors as well as secondary survivors." Page 313

# HIV Prevention, Care & Treatment, Mental Health and Violence Prevention and Response

