



Title: From Innovation to Access: Multipurpose Prevention Technologies (MPTs) and Universal Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health for Women

Hosted by: SAMRC in partnership with the **Population Council** and **IPM South Africa NPC**

As countries work towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC), innovative solutions are needed to address the intersecting challenges of HIV acquisition, unintended pregnancy, and unequal access to sexual and reproductive health services. **Multipurpose Prevention Technologies (MPTs)** offer a promising approach by combining protection against multiple health risks in a single product, expanding women's choices and supporting more integrated, person-centred care.

Join experts from the Population Council and IPM South Africa for an engaging discussion on the latest advances in MPT development, with a particular focus on technologies that combine HIV prevention and pregnancy prevention. The webinar will explore the evidence behind these innovations, their potential to improve women's health outcomes, and the opportunities and challenges involved in ensuring equitable access and successful integration into health systems.

Discover how MPTs can help translate scientific innovation into meaningful public health impact, advancing women's autonomy, improving sexual and reproductive health outcomes, and accelerating progress towards universal access to comprehensive healthcare.

Join the conversation on transforming innovation into access for women.

This is a HPCSA CPD accredited webinar

 **29 Oct 2026**

 **15h00 – 16h30**

[**Register here**](#)

All welcome – for any questions or suggestions, please contact:

Kim Jonas (SAMRC): kim.jonas@mrc.ac.za

Diantha Pillay (IPM South Africa): dpillay@popcouncil.org



Programme:

Time (SAST)	Duration	Topic & Speaker
15:00	5 min	Opening Prof Ntobeko Ntusi , President South African Medical Research Council
15:05:	5 min	Topic: Setting the scene (and panel introductions) Diantha Pillay , Population Council / IPM South Africa
15:10	15 min	Topic: A multipurpose DPV-LNG ring for HIV prevention and contraception – Evidence and Research Dr Kyle Kleinbeck , Center for Biomedical Research, New York, United States
15:25	15 min	Topic: The Dual Prevention Pill (DPP) for HIV prevention and contraception – Evidence and Research Dr Nyaradzo Mgodzi , UZ-CTRC, Zimbabwe
15:40	15 min	Topic: Research on Acceptability of Multipurpose Technologies Dr Barbara Friedland , Center for Biomedical Research, New York, United States
15:55	15 min	Topic: An introduction to a non-hormonal multipurpose technology Dr Lisa Haddad , Center for Biomedical Research, New York, United States
16:10	20 min	Q&A discussion Diantha Pillay , Population Council / IPM South Africa
16:30	5 min	Closure, thanks, and next steps — Dr Kim Jonas .



Diantha Pillay

Director, Global Product Access and Medical Science Liaison

Diantha Pillay has over 15 years of experience working in female sexual and reproductive health research, implementation, and programming across multiple African countries. Pillay's research interests have focused on biomedical HIV prevention, STI care and treatment, and contraception research and new product introduction.



Dr Kyle Kleinbeck

Senior Scientist, Center for Biomedical Research, New York, United States

Kyle Kleinbeck is a pharmaceutical development scientist focused on formulation, manufacturing, and development of products for contraception, and HIV and other STI prevention at the Population Council's Center for Biomedical Research. n over 10 years with the Population Council and International Partnership for Microbicides, Kleinbeck has led formulation, analytical, and manufacturing activities resulting in three successful Investigational New Drug applications for HIV prevention and contraception products



Dr Nyaradzo Mgodhi

UZ-CTRC Zengeza Clinical Research Site Leader, UZ-CTRC, Zimbabwe

Dr Mgodhi is a clinical pathologist and clinical trial specialist with over 15 years of experience conducting clinical trials for HIV prevention in women of reproductive age in Sub-Saharan Africa, including Zimbabwe, home to the University of Zimbabwe-Clinical Trials Research Centre. As lead investigator in Harare, she has overseen the implementation of several trials assessing acceptability, safety and effectiveness of oral PrEP, vaginal microbicides, the Dapivirine vaginal ring, long-acting injectable PrEP and broadly neutralizing antibodies for HIV prevention in African women at risk for HIV.



Dr Barbara Friedland,

Senior Associate, Center for Biomedical Research, New York, United States

Since joining the Council over two decades ago, Dr Friedland has implemented clinical and behavioral research to advance the development and introduction of microbicides, contraceptives, and multipurpose prevention technologies. Dr Friedland's current research focuses on how product, provider, and end-user factors influence acceptability, adherence, and method continuation. She is currently leading a study to evaluate the acceptability of the one-year Annovera contraceptive ring distributed through family planning clinics in Kenya and Zimbabwe.



Dr Lisa Haddad,

Executive Director and Chief Medical Officer, Centre for Biomedical Research, New York, United States

She leads pre-clinical and clinical development efforts to advance CBR's sexual and reproductive health product portfolio, including novel contraceptives and multipurpose prevention technologies (MPTs). She jointly leads CBR's strategy, fundraising, finances, and overall management with Brid Devlin. An internationally recognized scholar and leader in the field, Haddad has authored more than 180 peer-reviewed publications and has received numerous awards for her research, teaching, and mentorship.