

# International Partnership for Microbicides



Incorporating End-User and Health Professional Perspectives  
into the Development of Multipurpose Prevention  
Technologies (MPT)

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MPT meetings

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# Multiple Types of “Users”

- The person who will use the product (“end-user”)
- The person’s family who will endorse/accept use
- Health professionals who will advise on use
- Community members whose views will influence use





# What do we already “know?”

Delivery mode

Dosing schedule

Storage requirements

Packaging

Reversibility

Access

...user preferences for these may impact adherence, thus effectiveness

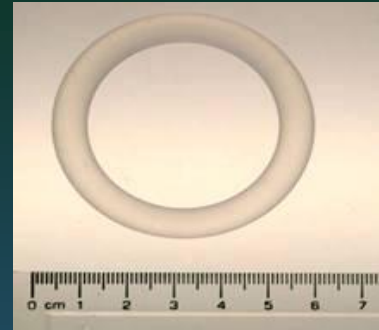




# Delivery Mode (dosage forms)

All modes of vaginal delivery have shown good potential for acceptability.

Women's preferences vary, so multiple dosage forms are needed.

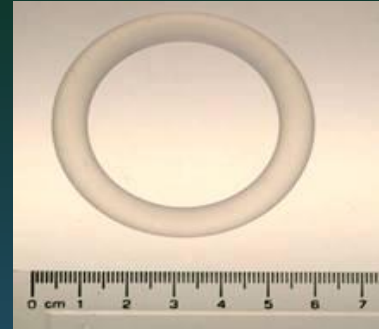




# Dosing Schedule

Sustained release, daily and coitally-associated methods are needed.

Sustained release methods likely to have fewer adherence problems, but people may take “holidays” if they are not confident of safety and long term effects.





# Storage Requirements

Temperature and humidity conditions in “high risk” settings limit the options for products.

End users will be primarily concerned about space limitations.

People have little control over temp/humidity and space.

Smaller is better.





# Packaging

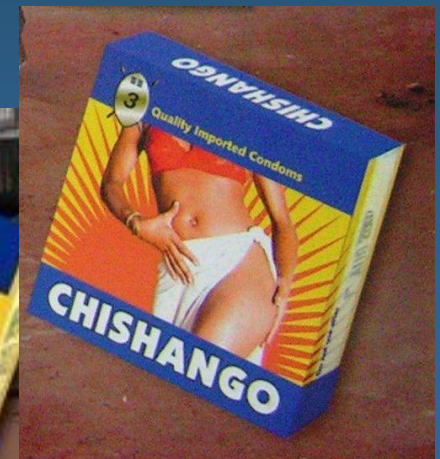
Must be discrete, not indicate use for stigmatized health needs

Careful messaging

“increase pleasure?”

“reduce pain?”

“female control?”





# Reversibility

Should be quickly and easily reversible

Concerns about long term effects on fertility may inhibit use and use-adherence





# Access

Discrete access sources

End-users want to receive advice

Health professionals want to give advice. They require information on effects that must be considered in product development and trials.





# Overarching: discrete possibility



MPTs should have the potential to be used discretely. Vaginal products should

- have minimal effect on the sexual encounter
- require minimal storage space
- be easy & quick to use
- quick acting & long acting
- have discrete packaging
- minimum disposal requirements



# Overarching: Choice

- MPTs providing protection from pregnancy, HIV, and/or STI must be available in a non-contraceptive option
- Should be options for continuous/sustained release, daily and coitally-associated use
- Need options for different dosage forms





# Users must be considered throughout MPT development process



- A key lesson learned from other health technologies is to consider user preferences when developing MPTs.
- An expanded conceptualization of users includes those likely to advise on use, and (for some technologies) prescribe use.
- Trade-offs include choosing the “least worst.”