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Old and new challenges around HIV PrEP medicines

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Access to HIV medicines: a persistent challenge, from ART to prevention

Old challenge



Ongoing challenge



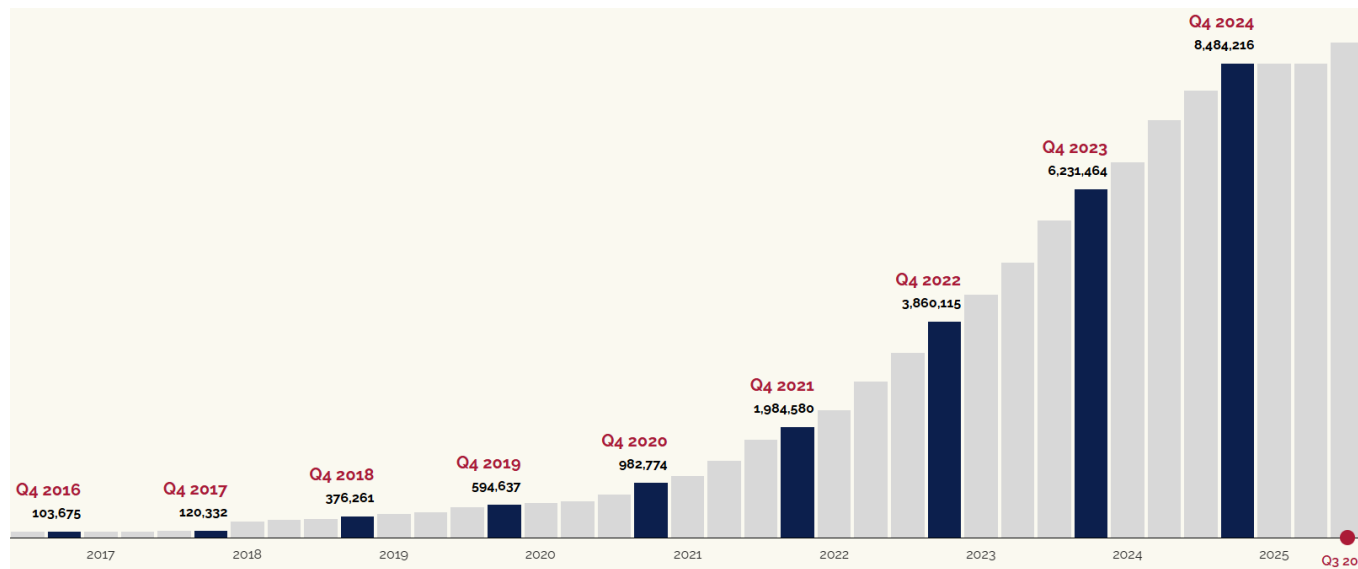
New challenges



Lessons (to be) learned from oral PrEP

Highly efficacious, recommended for people at substantial HIV risk (WHO, 2015)

Essential medicines list (WHO, 2017)



Started, by Q3,2025: 9 million

UNAIDS target: 21,2 million

Regulatory approval
& guidelines

Budgeting &
funding

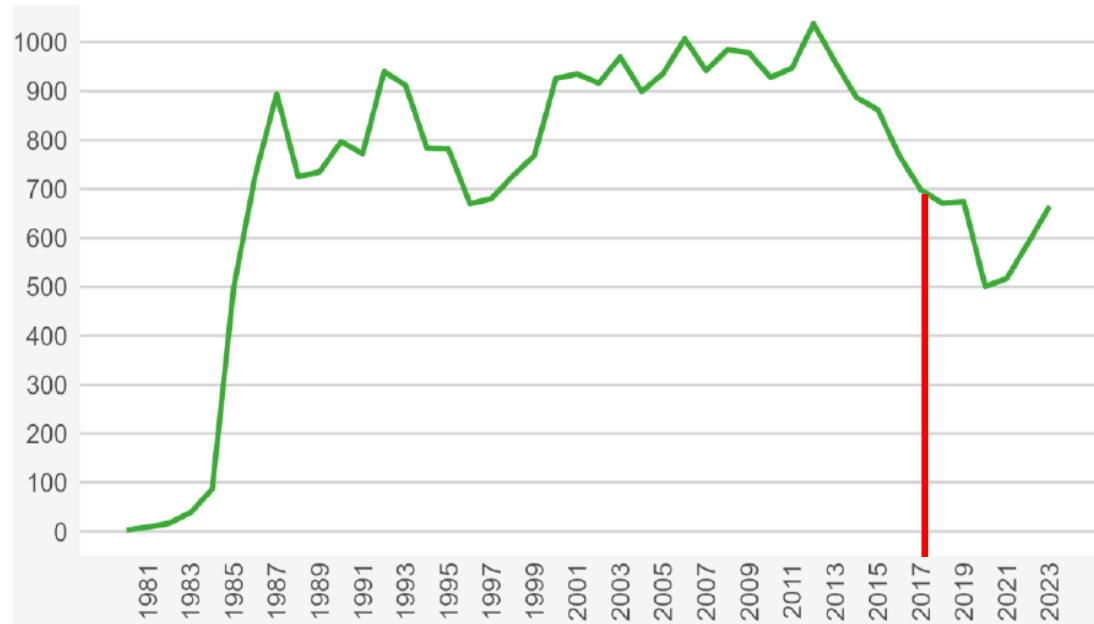
Procurement
& supply

Service delivery

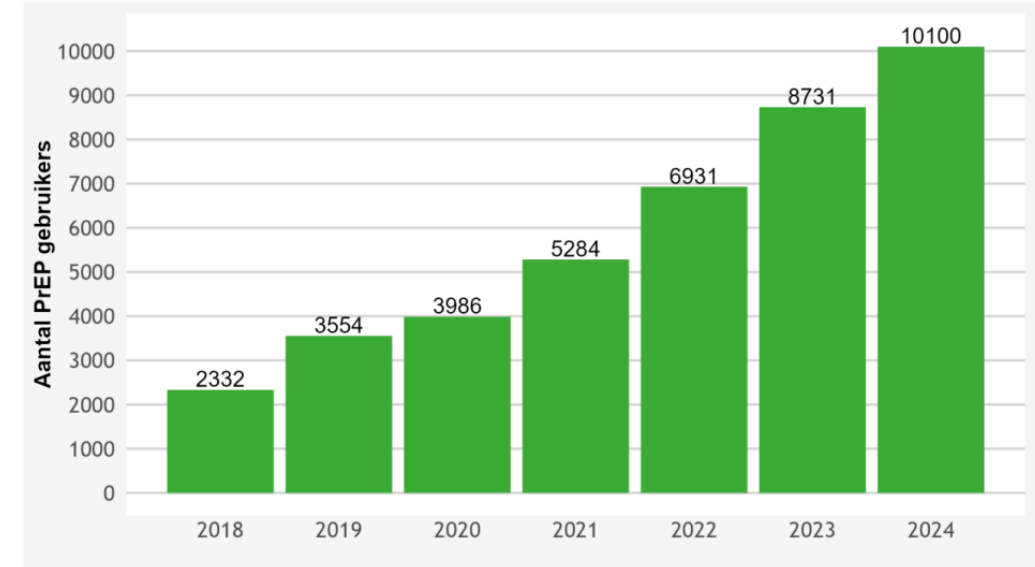
Stigma &
demand-generation



Belgium as a case study (since 2017)



Figuur 49: Evolutie van het jaarlijks aantal PrEP-gebruikers, 2018-2024



Bron: Farmanet

Uptake relatively slow

Uptake highly inequitable

Among most expensive generic in EU (160€/bottle)

Delivery remains specialised, centralised

Impact on epidemic remains unclear

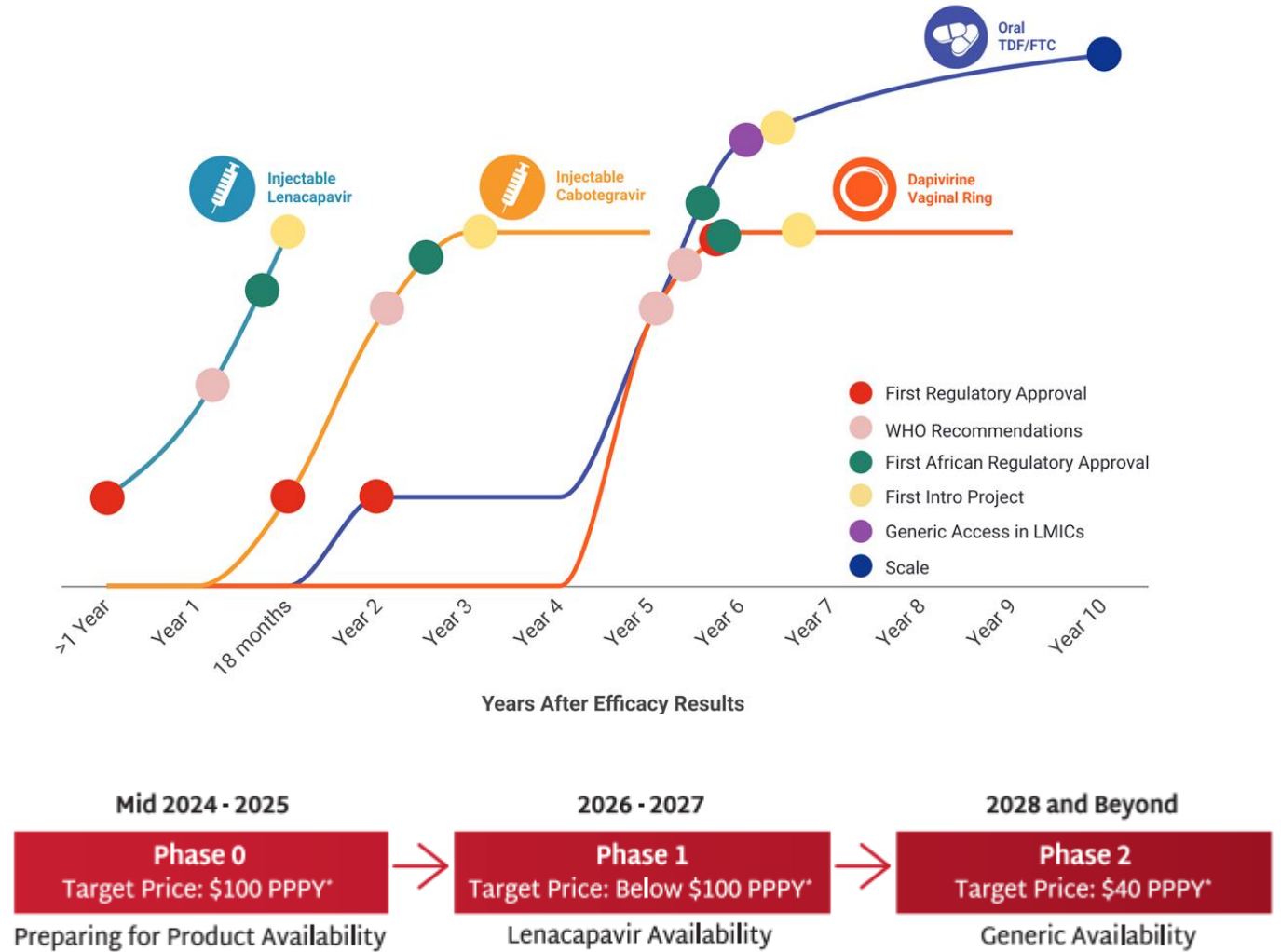


The lens on LEN: real game-changer?



Impact will depend on:

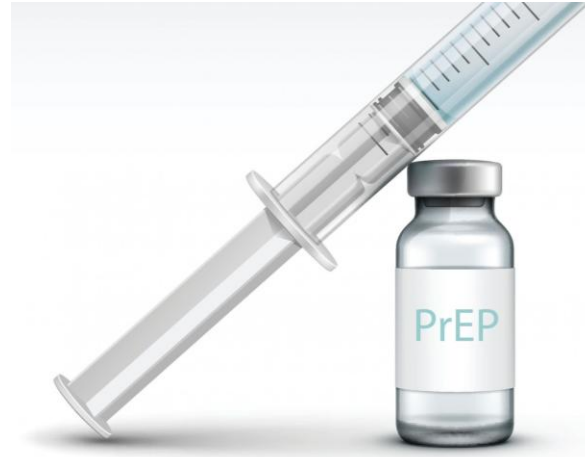
- Speed
- Scale
- Equity



An expanding toolbox



Monthly pill
Double prevention pill



4-monthly
12-monthly



Multi-purpose rings
3-monthly

Ensuring access to highly efficacious HIV prevention medicines:

- **Who controls the market?**

Pharmaceutical gatekeeping and price-setting

- **Who pays for the platform?**

Financing **beyond the vial (?)** under pressure

- **Who delivers the service?**

Differentiate delivery of specialised care

Differences by characteristics of health systems

- **Who can safely access it?**

Discrimination, criminalisation, violence remain unresolved

- **Who remains unreached?**

Prioritisation of communities without stigmatisation

Previous vulnerabilities are magnified

Speed

Scale

Equity



An expanding HIV prevention toolbox with novel medicines

New opportunities:

- Efficacy
- Acceptability
- Adherence
- Protection
-

Old challenges:

- Financing
- Affordability
- Vulnerability and stigma
- Integration
- EQUITY

More targeted M& E?

More (meaningful) engagement with end-users?





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Thank you!

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