

Cervical cancer is one of the most common cancers in women living in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), with roughly 110,000 women diagnosed annually; of these women, about 66% will die from the disease. Women living with HIV (WLHIV) are up to six times more likely to develop persistent precancerous lesions and progress to cervical cancer, often with more aggressive forms and higher mortality.

Launched in May 2018 to address this challenge, Go Further is an innovative public-private partnership between the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the George W. Bush Institute, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), Merck, and Roche. The partnership collaborates closely with governments to strategize on ways to provide services for women from prevention through the cancer journey. Go Further began working in eight countries (Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe), and expanded services to four additional countries (Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda) in fiscal year (FY) 2021. The objectives are to screen all WLHIV on ART between the ages of 25 and 49 for cervical cancer, and to treat pre-invasive cervical cancer lesions to prevent progression to cervical cancer.

Country Context

Total Population
(July 2021 est.)
(World Factbook)

19,077,816

Women Aged 15-49
HIV Prevalence Rate
(UNAIDS 2020)

14%

Age-standardized
Incidence Rate (per 100,000) of
Cervical Cancer Cases
(Estimates for 2020)
(<https://gco.iarc.fr/>)

65.5

Total # of Women
(All Ages) On ART
(PEPFAR, FY21 Q4)

730,336

Zambia	Funding Amount	Cervical Cancer Screening Target
FY19	\$3,500,000	130,000
FY20	\$6,154,506	194,950
FY21	\$6,007,477	247,003
FY22	\$5,363,709	268,342

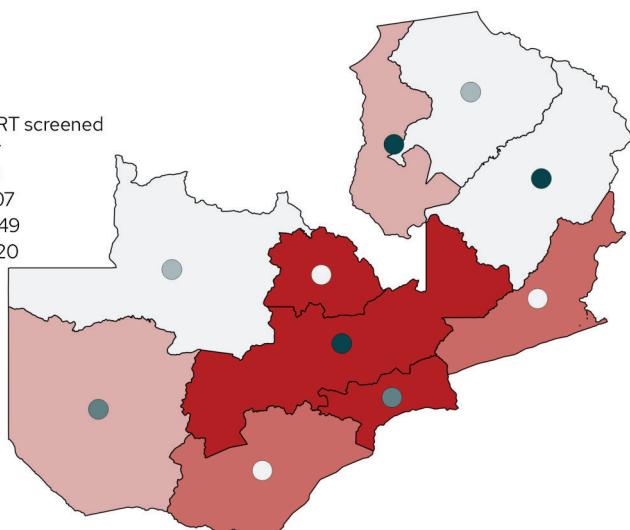
Zambia: Cervical cancer screenings and positives (precancerous lesions or suspected invasive cervical cancer), FY18-FY21

Percent of WLHIV on ART (15+)
who were screened and received
results positive for precancerous
lesions or positive for suspected
invasive cervical cancer

- 4.8% - 6.5%
- 6.5% - 7.4%
- 7.4% - 9.0%
- 9.0% - 17%

WLHIV (15+) on ART screened
for cervical cancer

- 6,292 - 14,428
- 14,428 - 40,807
- 40,807 - 55,349
- 55,349 - 163,120



Source: PEPFAR Panorama Spotlight, data.pepfar.gov

RESULTS SUMMARY

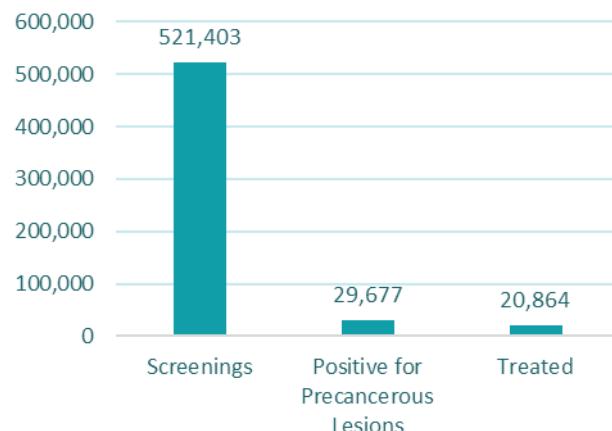
- ◆ In FY21: 237,491 screenings were performed, representing 96% of the FY21 target; 82% of women who screened positive for precancerous lesions received treatment.
- ◆ Since FY18: 7,207 women screened positive for suspected invasive cervical cancer. Of the 521,403 screenings, 455,545 (87.4 %) were first time screenings, 16,480 (3.2%) were follow-up screenings, and 49,378 (9.5%) were re-screens.

Strategic Direction for FY22

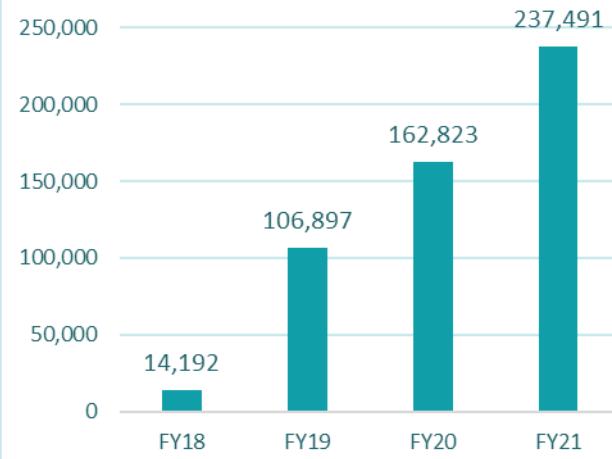
- ◆ In COP21, PEPFAR Zambia will continue to strengthen screening services country wide. PEPFAR Zambia will focus on approaches that target the screening of WLHIV women in the ART clinics and use adherence counsellors to create demand in communities. Referral systems and linkage services will continue to be strengthened through improved health literacy of healthcare providers and CHWs to ensure consistent cervical cancer screening of WLHIV.
- ◆ PEPFAR Zambia's COP21 IPs will work with sites to create an enabling environment that will effectively target WLHIV with screening services. In addition, the development of relevant guidelines, SOPs, job aids and training materials will continue to be prioritized.
- ◆ In COP21, PEPFAR Zambia will scale-up screen-and-treat using VIA and treatment with cryotherapy or thermal ablation in all sites along with strengthening LEEP referral services will improve treatment rates of identified large precancerous lesions.
- ◆ During COP21, PEPFAR Zambia is in the process of scaling up HPV DNA testing as a gold standard.



Cascade, FY18 through FY21



of Screenings



Implementing Partners (FY22)

- ◆ Eastern Provincial Health Office
- ◆ Western Provincial Health Office
- ◆ Southern Province Health Office
- ◆ University Teaching Hospital
- ◆ Project Concern International
- ◆ Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia, Ltd.
- ◆ Lusaka Provincial Health Office
- ◆ JSI – SAFE
- ◆ JSI—DISCOVER-Health
- ◆ Right to Care
- ◆ Catholic Relief Services
- ◆ Zambia Accessible Markets for Health (ZAMHEALTH)