S6.1 Evolution of the epidemiology among men who have sex with men (MSM) in low and moderate income countries

K H Mayer. Harvard University’s School of Public Health, Boston, Massachusetts, USA

With the success of the CAPRISA 004 study of 1% tenofovir vaginal gel in South African women, and the iPrEx study of the use of oral co-formulated tenofovir-emtricitabine in an international cohort of MSM, it is clear that chemoprophylaxis may be able to enhance current HIV prevention efforts. However, multiple questions remain, including which mode of drug delivery is likely to be most effective for each population, and which drugs are the preferred ones to use. Other major questions include the feasibility of using a rectal formulation to prevent HIV transmission, and what is the most parsimonious way to dose these medications, in order to save costs and to minimise toxicities. This presentation will review the data from recently completed trials, will summarise the status of other studies underway, will discuss the gaps in our knowledge, and will discuss the responses of medical care providers and high risk populations to the news of PrEP efficacy. Clearly, the field is in its infancy, but offers promises for epidemic control.

S6.2 Dangerous liaisons: risk in MSM in developed countries

G J Hart. University College, London, UK

Although there has been a reduction in incident HIV infection in some MSM communities in developed countries, in others new diagnoses and incident infections are increasing. Helping those who are HIV negative to remain negative remains a pressing concern. The number of men who are HIV positive is increasing because of successful ART, but the sexual health needs of positive MSM are rarely addressed. This presentation focuses on behavioural research in the era of ART, with particular reference to continuing transmission of HIV, current risk behaviour for HIV infection, and the challenging situation with regard to established and emerging STIs in MSM.

S6.3 Behavioural interventions among men who have sex with men (MSM): where do we go from here?

M R Golden. Harborview Medical Center Madison Clinic, Seattle, USA

Over the last two and a half decades, researchers and public health agencies have invested substantial resources in developing and implementing counselling and behavioural interventions to decrease HIV transmission among men who have sex with men (MSM) in higher-income nations. Meanwhile, MSM have substantially altered their sexual risk behaviour, adapting to the HIV epidemic, as well as the technological revolution fuelled by the Internet. This presentation will review the evidence supporting the efficacy of behavioural interventions in MSM, discuss the challenges posed in bringing those interventions to scale, and suggest future research and prevention directions designed to move behavioural interventions from an efficacy to an effectiveness focus.

S6.4 Antiretroviral chemoprophylaxis: new opportunities and new challenges

K H Mayer. Harvard University’s School of Public Health, Boston, Massachusetts, USA

With the success of the CAPRISA 004 study of 1% tenofovir vaginal gel in South African women, and the iPrEx study of the use of oral co-formulated tenofovir-emtricitabine in an international cohort of MSM, it is clear that chemoprophylaxis may be able to enhance current HIV prevention efforts. However, multiple questions remain, including which mode of drug delivery is likely to be most effective for each population, and which drugs are the preferred ones to use. Other major questions include the feasibility of using a rectal formulation to prevent HIV transmission, and what is the most parsimonious way to dose these medications, in order to save costs and to minimise toxicities. This presentation will review the data from recently completed trials, will summarise the status of other studies underway, will discuss the gaps in our knowledge, and will discuss the responses of medical care providers and high risk populations to the news of PrEP efficacy. Clearly, the field is in its infancy, but offers promises for epidemic control.