

The Lydia Clinic, Lambeth Wing,  
1st Floor, St Thomas' Hospital, Lambeth  
Palace Road, London, SE1 7EH, Phone: 020  
7188 6666

The Coutyard Genito Urinary Clinic  
St. George's Hospital, Blackshaw Road  
London, SW17 0Q, Phone: 020 8725 3353

Lloyd Clinic  
Thomas Guy House, Guy's Hospital, St  
Thomas' Street London, SE1 9RT,  
Phone: 020 7188 6666

Walworth Clinic, Larcom Street, Walworth,  
London SE17 1RY Tel: 0207 703 3262

Albion Street H/C  
87 Albion Street, Rotherhithe  
London SE16 7JX, Tel: 0207 231 2296

Bermondsey H/C  
108 Grange Road, Bermondsey  
London SE1 3BW, Tel: 0207 237 2826

McNair Centre, Thomas Guy House, Guy's  
Hospital, London Bridge London SE1,  
Tel: 0207 955 5000

The Caldecot Centre, Dept. of Sexual Health,  
15-22 Caldecot Road,  
Camberwell SE5 9RS Tel: 020 7346 3453  
Opening Hrs: Mon, Tues, Thur, Fri 9am-5pm  
Wed 10am-5pm, Wed 2pm-4.30pm

The 374 Clinic at Brixton Brook:  
374 Brixton Road SW9 7AW  
Tel: 020 7787 5000. Tuesdays 12-2pm

Honor Oak Health Centre  
20 Turnham Road, London SE4 2HH  
Telephone 020 7771 5718

South Lewisham Health Centre  
50 Conisborough Crescent London SE6 2SP  
Telephone 020 8698 9338

**HIV test results in 1Hr**  
The Walk, Lambeth Walk Group Practice  
5 Lambeth Walk, London SE11 6SP  
Telephone: 020 7735 4412  
Wednesdays 3-17.15pm.

Peckham Pulse Leisure Centre  
10 Melon Road, Peckham SE15 5QN.  
Tel: 020 7525 4989 (Thursdays from 5-8pm)

Victoria Clinic for Sexual Health  
82 Vincent Square, London SW1P 2PF  
Tel: 020 8746 8700

The John Hunter Clinic  
2nd Floor, St Stephen's Centre  
Chelsea & Westminster Hospital  
369 Fulham Road, London SW10 9NH  
Tel: (020) 8846 6171 / (020) 8846 6154.

West London Centre for Sexual Health  
West London Centre for Sexual Health  
Charing Cross Hospital, Fulham Palace Road,  
London W4 8RF, 020 8846 1567 / 1577

Lighthouse West London  
111 - 117 Lancaster Road,  
London W11 1QT, Tel: (020) 7792 1200

**Other Useful Contacts:**  
African AIDS Helpline: 0800 0967 500  
National AIDS Helpline: 0800 5670 123  
African Access Project

ACIA: 0208 8687 2400  
AHEAD: 0208 316 4868  
Positive Place: 0208 694 2180  
UK Coalition of People  
Living with HIV/AIDS: 0207 7820 3000  
THT Direct: 0845 12 21 200  
Sexwise: 0800 28 29 30

## Women HIV & Microbicides

by Georgina Caswell

What's all the hype around microbicides? This was the recurrent question asked by HIV activists in Manchester following the Toronto conference. As a result, George House Trust, a leading HIV organisation in Manchester, collaborated with the UK African Microbicides Group (of the UK Campaign for Microbicides) to host a seminar on microbicides on 12th March

Given the obvious logic behind microbicides, several participants asked why there was a need for a campaign. Why do they simply not exist? Is it all about funding or is progress slow because microbicides are currently being designed for African women? Participants were suspicious of pharmaceutical companies: given their profit-making nature, how do

effectiveness of microbicides: given that a microbicide is user-controlled, how do scientists know whether a microbicide is effective, or whether the effectiveness is due to other factors? Finally, participants highlighted the need for social research into the behaviour of men and their acceptability of these new products. The UK African Microbicides



Georgina Caswell, Lydia Zigomo and Mary Lima making individual presentations on microbicides awareness, advocacy and ethical issues surrounding trials, at the event.

2007. The event is one of several activities taking place this year to bring the microbicides message to communities and activists beyond London.

There were 58 participants at the seminar, most of whom were African women. A significant number were living with HIV and others were HIV activists. Active campaigner for microbicides, Angelina Namiba gave an introduction on microbicides and their development. This was followed by a presentation on the ethical issues surrounding trials by Lydia Zigomo. Finally, Mary Lima provided participants with information about what it means to be an advocate and how participants can raise awareness about microbicides within their communities and engage in lobbying activities.

we increase their commitment in the research and development of microbicides? Participants also expressed the need for rectal microbicides because anal intercourse is prevalent in all communities and they also felt that in developing microbicides, it is important to take into consideration sexual practices, particularly constantly evolving trends amongst young people. There was also the issue of testing. The first generation of microbicides are designed for HIV negative women so women who are using microbicides would need to know they are not already infected if the microbicides are to be effective. Therefore, as advocates, do we also call for more HIV testing and how do we integrate that into current messages for microbicides? Several participants posed questions about the

Working Group will ensure that the questions, comments and concerns from the dynamic discussions at the seminar are fed into the ongoing work of the UK Campaign for Microbicides. George House Trust and the UK African Working Group will continue to work together to regularly update participants about developments and to ensure that some advocates in northwest England are able to engage in future advocacy activities.

For more information about the seminar or about the UK African Microbicides Working Group and its activities, please visit [www.ahpn.org/campaigns/index.php?camp\\_id=4](http://www.ahpn.org/campaigns/index.php?camp_id=4) or contact Georgina Caswell, Policy & Community Engagement Officer, African HIV Policy Network, UK African Microbicides Working Group.

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