

Despite progress against HIV/AIDS, women continue to face persistently high infection rates, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. Women urgently need new prevention choices that meet their varied needs, which can change throughout their lives.



IPM's monthly dapivirine ring could fill an important gap with a long-acting prevention method for women who are unable or choose not to use higher-efficacy products like daily oral PrEP.

The dapivirine ring received a positive scientific opinion in 2020 from the European Medicines Agency (EMA) for use among women ages 18 and older in developing countries. The product was also prequalified by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2020, and in 2021 received a WHO recommendation and was included in WHO's HIV guidelines.

IPM is seeking regulatory approvals in eastern and southern Africa, with approval received in Zimbabwe and several other countries in the region.

A



IPM pioneered the ring's development through public-private partnerships that brought scientific ingenuity, political will and financial resources to bear at every phase of product development.

IPM obtained a royalty-free license from the Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson in 2004 to develop dapivirine as a microbicide for women. That license expanded in 2014 to an exclusive worldwide rights agreement that ensures any dapivirine product will be made available at low cost in resource-limited settings.

IPM took the ring from concept to regulatory reviews in cooperation with governments, foundations, researchers, industry, advocates and communities. It will require that same level of collaboration to finance and coordinate the ring's introduction, where it is approved for use.

• In addition to the Phase III and OLE studies, over 40 safety studies of different dapivirine formulations (oral treatment, gel, film and ring) support the ring's strong safety profile.