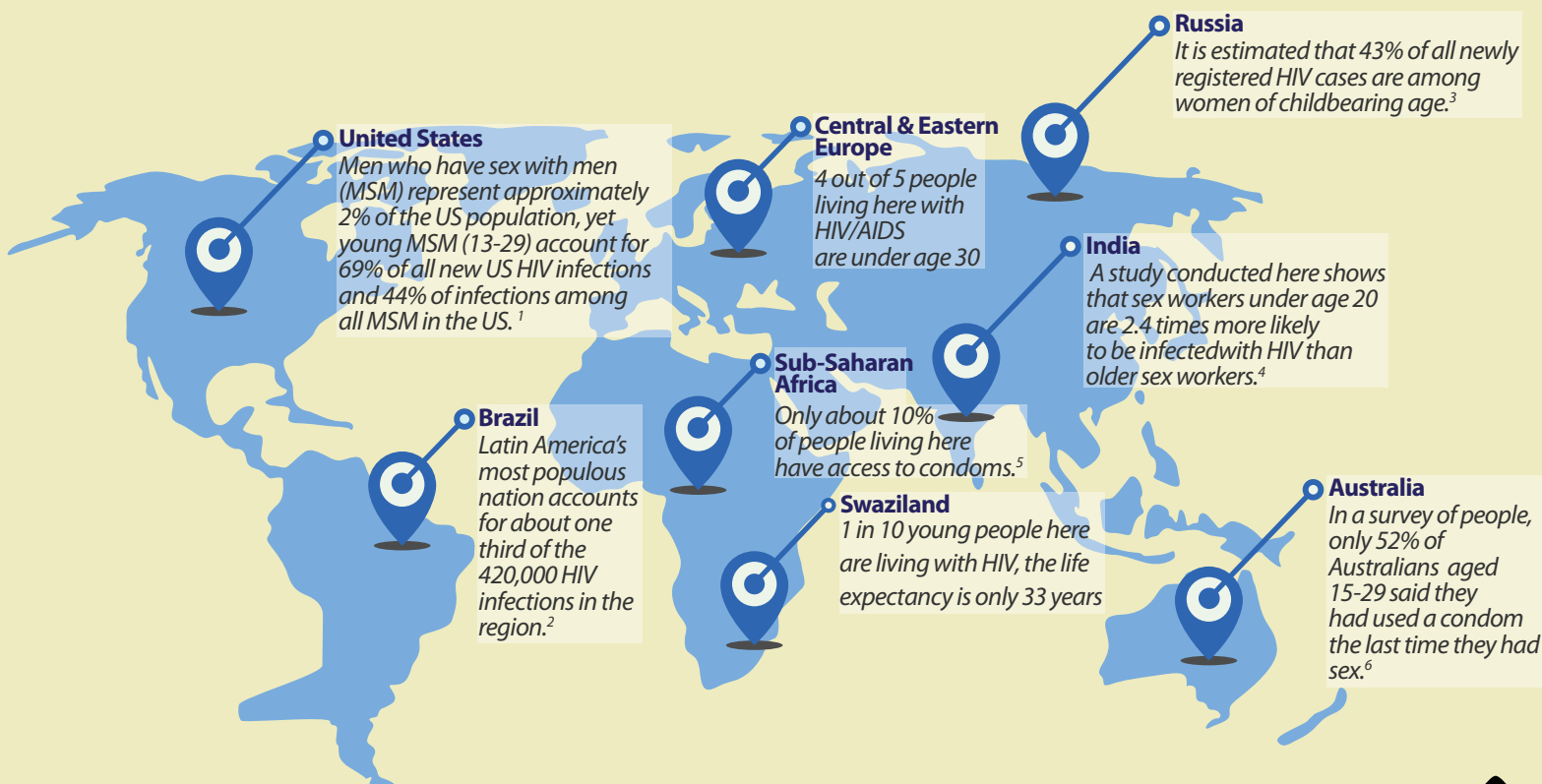


# YOUTH NEED AN AIDS VACCINE

A preventative HIV vaccine will provide invisible, long-lasting protection that doesn't depend on behavior change.

## MORE THAN 40% OF NEW INFECTIONS OCCUR AMONG YOUTHS AGED 15-24



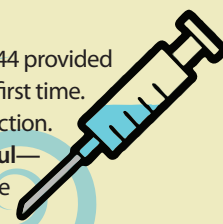
A young woman aged 15-24 years old is eight times more likely than a young man her age to be HIV positive.<sup>7</sup>



**An HIV vaccine is possible.** In 2010, a Phased III clinical trial known as RV144 provided "proof of concept" for an HIV vaccine for the first time.

This prime/boost vaccine regime provided modest protection against infection.

**An HIV vaccine will help protect the youth who are the most vulnerable and least powerful—those who cannot use other prevention tools.** Although combination prevention will still be necessary, an HIV vaccine will play an important role in protecting young people.



### Around the world...

- Youth often don't have access to HIV education, sexual and reproductive health services or HIV prevention tools
- Young people often don't think of themselves as being at risk of HIV infection, which increases their vulnerability
- Young people often lack the social power and economic independence to negotiate safer sex with older partners
- Young people may avoid prevention, testing and treatment because of the stigma associated with HIV
- Young people are at risk of HIV from sexual assault and rape, including in war and conflict settings

1 - <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/msm/>

2 - <http://advocatesforyouth.org/publications/427?task=view>

3 - [unfpa.org/hiv/docs/report-cards/russia.pdf](http://unfpa.org/hiv/docs/report-cards/russia.pdf)

4 - Journal of Infection, Volume 53, Issue 4, October 2006

5 - <http://www.unfpa.org/worldwide/africa.html>

6 - [http://www.ashm.org.au/images/Media%20Releases/WAD\\_media\\_release\\_20101130.pdf](http://www.ashm.org.au/images/Media%20Releases/WAD_media_release_20101130.pdf)

7 - UNAIDS AIDS scorecards 2010

# ● YOUTH NEED AN AIDS VACCINE

Youths need information about and access to comprehensive, combination HIV prevention. Current methods include male and female condoms, prevention and treatment of diseases that affect genital health, partner reduction, abstinence, delayed sexual debut, voluntary medical male circumcision, Treatment as Prevention, and Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP). Young people particularly need new HIV prevention methods that don't depend on behavior or the participation of others. Emerging methods such as vaginal and rectal microbicides need to be tested in and effective for youth populations. An HIV vaccine, ideally used in combination with other prevention tools, will be uniquely suited to the needs of youth; however, no prevention tool will protect young people if it's not designed to respond to the social, legal and cultural realities that they face.

## How to Get Involved:

### Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS (GYCA):

GYCA is a youth-led global network of over 7,000 young leaders and adult allies working on youth and HIV/AIDS in more than 170 countries world-wide. GYCA's mission is to empower young leaders with the skills, knowledge, resources and opportunities they need to scale up HIV/AIDS interventions amongst their peers.

[www.gyca.org](http://www.gyca.org)

### International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI):

The International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI) is a global not-for-profit organization whose mission is to ensure the development of safe, effective, accessible, preventive HIV vaccines for use throughout the world. Founded in 1996, IAVI works with partners in 25 countries to research, design and develop AIDS vaccine candidates. The organization also conducts policy analysis and serves as an advocate for the AIDS vaccine field. It supports a comprehensive approach to addressing HIV and AIDS that balances the expansion and strengthening of existing HIV prevention and treatment programs with targeted investments in the design and development of new tools to prevent HIV. IAVI is dedicated to ensuring that a future AIDS vaccine will be available and accessible to all who need it.

[www.iavi.org](http://www.iavi.org)

### Advocates for Youth:

Established in 1980 as the Center for Population Options, Advocates for Youth champions efforts that help young people make informed and responsible decisions about their reproductive and sexual health. Advocates believes it can best serve the field by boldly advocating for a more positive and realistic approach to adolescent sexual health. Advocates focuses its work on young people ages 14-25 in the U.S. and around the globe.

[www.advocatesforyouth.org](http://www.advocatesforyouth.org)

### ATHENA Network:

The ATHENA Network is a global network that works to advance gender equity in the response to HIV and AIDS. Because gender inequity fuels HIV and HIV fuels gender inequity, it is imperative that women and girls-- particularly those living with HIV-- speak out, set priorities for action, and lead the response.

[www.athenanetwork.org](http://www.athenanetwork.org)



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