



Membership Information

[International Rectal Microbicide Advocates \(IRMA\)](#) is a global network numbering over **650** advocates, policymakers and leading scientists from **50+ countries** on **six continents** working to advance research, development and access to safe, effective and acceptable rectal microbicides - agents in the form of a gel, a lube, an enema or a suppository that could provide protection against HIV during anal intercourse - for the women and men around the world who need options beyond latex.

Since its creation in 2005, IRMA serves as a central forum for exchange, debate, and networking on rectal microbicides. Beyond its primary goal, the organization aims to support the research of other new prevention technologies, such as male circumcision, vaccines and oral prevention (PrEP), and to promote existing prevention methods such as male and female condoms as part of a range of prevention options.

IRMA members receive:

- **Access** to the most recent information on the medical prevention of HIV, an online blog to connect with peers and experts, exchange advice and experiences and advance their understanding of the microbicides
- **Advocacy** opportunities to influence funders, policy makers, elected officials, and other government officials on rectal microbicides research and availability
- **Information** about the latest products in the stage of development, animal and human trials through the international and national events and shared publications
- **Education** through the teleconferences and community presentations organized or supported by IRMA
- **Networking** with the world's leading scientists, advocates, policy makers who advance the research on rectal microbicides

IRMA membership is available to:

- **Individuals** who want to join the global rectal microbicide advocacy efforts
- **Organizations** working in HIV prevention and willing to expand their expertise
- **Women's Rights Groups** that understand the importance of female-initiated, female-controlled prevention
- **LGBT** organizations concerned about the disproportionate impact of HIV on gay men and other men who have sex with men
- **Researchers** in the field as well as other scientists interested in rectal microbicide pre-clinical, clinical, and behavioral research

We strongly encourage you to visit our [website](#) to learn the latest regarding rectal microbicides and keep up to date on other new prevention technologies. Make sure you click on our blog from the IRMA homepage! Please [contact us](#) if you are interested in becoming involved with the IRMA network; we look forward to your correspondence. And we look forward to working with you toward the day we have safe, effective and acceptable rectal microbicides for all who need them!