

# GIPA acknowledgement for the HIV/AIDS research community

## CALL TO ACTION

If your research is about HIV and involves gathering data, lived experiences, biological samples or other aspects from the bodies or lives of people living with HIV and our participation as people living with HIV has influenced your work, we encourage you to consider and build upon the sample text provided as an acknowledgement of the role that people living with HIV have played in the response to HIV at the beginning of any presentation of your work.

We encourage you to **consider an acknowledgement of people living with HIV that reflects your research** and what we are providing for your consideration is three different formats and lengths for you to adapt.

### SAMPLE FULL TEXT

*“I want to begin my presentation by thanking the people living with HIV who have generously shared their time, experiences, and bodies for the purposes of this research. Much of the fight against HIV and AIDS relies upon people living with HIV continuing to put themselves forward and this research and our fight against HIV and AIDS is indebted to those past and present.”*

### SAMPLE MODIFIED FULL TEXT

*“I want to begin my presentation by thanking the people living with HIV who have participated in this research. Our fight against HIV and AIDS is indebted to people living with HIV both past and present.”*

### SAMPLE SHORT TEXT

*“I want to begin by acknowledging and thanking the people living with HIV who have generously participated in this research.”*

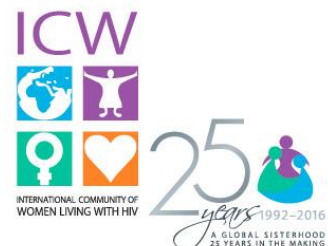
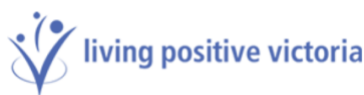
## RATIONALE

- Participation of people living with HIV in research has been and continues to be for the benefit of all people living with HIV across the globe.
- HIV research does not exist without the involvement of people living with HIV. The value of the lived experience is both unique and profound.
- People living with HIV are essential and equal partners in the development of effective treatments and ‘HIV cure’ research. People living with HIV remain vital to an effective HIV response.

- People living with HIV have and continue to willingly put our bodies on the line for science and for the benefit of the HIV/AIDS response globally.
- Because people living with HIV are diverse, there is a continual need to include the variety of lived experiences to reflect this diversity (Indigenous people, people of diverse genders and sexualities, people from numerous cultural and/or religious backgrounds, people who inject drugs, sex workers etc.).
- A meaningful acknowledgement of research subjects builds trust between researchers and affected communities.

## GOOD PRACTICE

- A statement of acknowledgement represents and supports the principles of the meaningful engagement and the greater involvement of people living with HIV (GIPA and MIPA) which has been endorsed at the highest levels and across numerous countries<sup>1</sup>.
- The UNAIDS policy brief on this matter states that we must “ensure that people living with HIV are included in the design of ethical research for new prevention technologies and the development of treatments.” The brief goes on to acknowledge that PLHIV provide vital knowledge and skills towards research development and implementation as well as the necessary advocacy for a meaningful and robust research agenda.
- Ideally, people living with HIV should be involved at all stages of HIV/AIDS research from design through to analysis and publication. Involving people living with HIV in the full research process demonstrates a commitment to GIPA/MIPA and models the behavior for other researchers.
- The history of the global response to HIV has always challenged the ways in which health policy, service delivery and research is conceived and implemented. This Call to Action continues this proud history of advocacy to ensure that PLHIV are seen as central and vital to our continued fight against HIV/AIDS.



A joint initiative between Living Positive Victoria and PozAction (Australia), GNP+, ICW and ICASO [December 2017]

<sup>1</sup> [http://data.unaids.org/pub/briefingnote/2007/jc1299\\_policy\\_brief\\_gipa.pdf](http://data.unaids.org/pub/briefingnote/2007/jc1299_policy_brief_gipa.pdf)