

*welcome*

to



**emfatales**



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National Network of Women Living with HIV

# National Network of Women Living With HIV

Overview of Femfatales Work

National Day of Women Living With HIV Forum

March 2020



National Network of Women Living with HIV

As a national network Femfatales are highly committed to following principles:

- MIPA
- GIPA
- MIWA
- the NAPWHA Declaration of Right for PLHIV/AIDS
- the UNESCO strategy for HIV/AIDS

Femfatales provide national policy and advocacy advice to the board to ensure a platform for women's issues



# Our Work

## Past & Present

### Sexual & Reproductive Health and Human Rights

- The female condoms (FC2)
- Postcard campaign: “Give Your Vagina A Choice”



Dear Minister

I believe women need better equity around their sexual and reproductive health choices.

The female condom is currently the only female-initiated method that provides protection from HIV, other sexually transmitted infections and unintended pregnancies.

I want the female condom to be made more available and more affordable in Australia.

I want women to have a choice.


Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

one ♀ condom + one ♂ condom = Equity



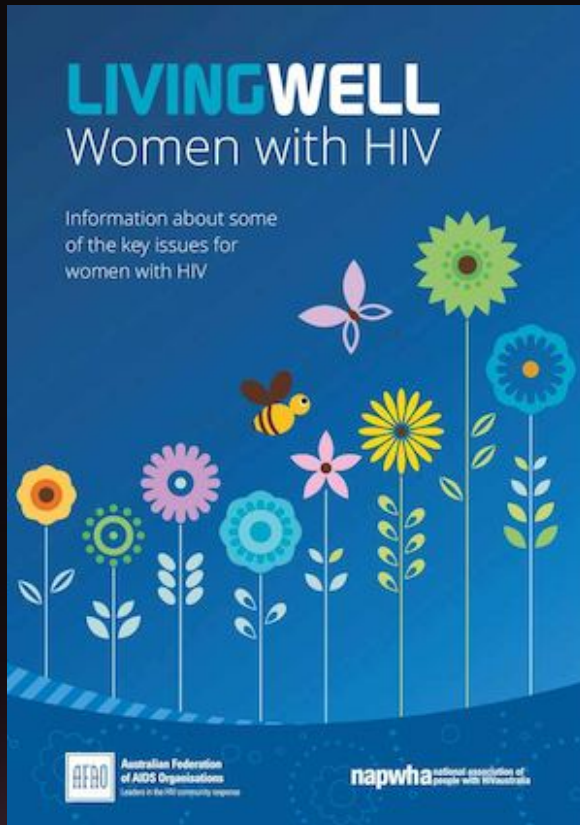
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Minister for Health  
Parliament House  
PO Box 6022  
CANBERRA ACT 2600



# Our Work

Past & Present



## Sexual & Reproductive Health and Human Rights

- Focus tested the Living Well: Women With HIV resource
- Research project: Positively Women: An arts based research project to support the sexual and reproductive health and rights of Women Living With HIV in Australia [facilitated by Patricia Morgan]
  - Phase 1 will be a collaborative art workshop in June 2020 with 15 Women LWHIV
  - Phase 2 a public art exhibition around World AIDS Day 2020



National Network of Women Living with HIV

# Our Work

## Past & Present

### Sexual & Reproductive Health and Human Rights

- Facilitated a National Women's Symposium to formalise a consensus statement for the Federal Government in relation to the 8<sup>th</sup> National HIV Strategy, looking to name women as a priority population [July 2017]
  - While represented as a sub-population, women were not given equal status in the National Strategy
  - aims: after presenting to sexual health services, that 90% of women should be routinely offered a HIV screen
  - aims to normalise HIV testing & treatment, and increase health literacy within a broader health framework



# Our Work

## Past & Present

### Human Rights: Breastfeeding and WLHIV

- Femfatales questioned issues around breastfeeding in 2017, sent letter to ASHM titled “*Review of ASHM Anti-Retroviral Guidelines US DHHS Guidelines with Australian Commentary: HIV Infected Women*”
- As a result ASHM formed The ARV Guidelines Review Subcommittee: HIV Positive Women & Breastfeeding, to look at revising the guidelines
- Helped establish terms of reference
- Clinical Guidelines Draft 3 currently being worked on, anticipated they will be launched at ASHM in Sept 2020
- Femfatales & NAPWHA will look to develop a user friendly community resource with women appropriate language



# Our Work

## Past & Present

### Human Rights: HPV

- Femfatales & Positive Life NSW conducted an on-line survey on HPV & women and trans and gender diverse people knowledge & experiences with HPV testing
- The survey highlighted a lack of awareness of risk prevention, symptoms and early detection of 4 HPV cancers (cervical, vaginal, vulva, anal)
- Women with HIV are much more likely to develop HPV-related cancer
- Future work: assess knowledge gaps to help develop resources, and help increase health care professional and community awareness of HPV and related cancers





# Our Work

## Past & Present

### National Day of Women Living With HIV

- 5 National Days 2016 – 2020
- NDWLHIV was created to increase the profile and visibility of Women Living with HIV, at a time when we felt invisible within an already marginalised community
- UN Women's theme is  
*I Am Generation Equality: Realising Women's Rights*
- #EachForEqual is the Social Media hashtag
- Each year Femfatales has released a media release to align with each National Day
- As a network Femfatales decides what theme to support for the National Day
- As an advisory network to NAPWHA its anticipated that each state and territory will plan & host an event





Femfatales Sisterhood