

April - June 2026

Greater Manchester

BHA FOR EQUALITY

Newsletter



Men's Health Week 2026, New Hepatitis B Guide, BHIVA/BASHH Conference, and more inside

PrEP Awareness Week 2026



PrEP Awareness Week was heated up this year by our 'PrEP for Summer' social media campaign, combining summer-themed messaging with culturally relevant information. This help us position PrEP as a summer essential.



BHA FOR EQUALITY

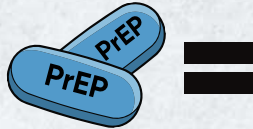
April - June 2026

PrEP AWARENESS WEEK 2026

PrEP Awareness Week | 22nd - 26th June 2026



PrEP Awareness Week is an annual event highlighting the importance of PrEP (Pre-exposure Prophylaxis) and its effectiveness in protecting people from HIV.



A pill that can prevent HIV for anyone who is HIV negative, even if they come into contact with the virus. It is available for free on the NHS and when taken correctly, is highly effective.

This year's PrEP Awareness Week was made a huge success by our social media campaign 'PrEP for Summer', which combined culturally relevant information with summer-themed messaging. This allowed us to engage with diverse audiences and encourage a new perspective on PrEP uptake.

As part of the campaign BHA collaborated with social media influencers, such as Dr Amber, Dr Olu, Humphrey and Talk with Steph. Our influencers reminded all of us to discuss our sexual health more, why PrEP is a summer essential and how starting PrEP is a simple yet powerful way to take control of your own health.

@doc.ambs @droluob_ @humph.yk @talk_with_steph

BHA offer a fast-track referral system designed specifically for ethnically minoritised communities

Scan the QR code to find more information or register your interest



MEN'S HEALTH WEEK 2026

From the 15th - 21st June, BHA participated in Men's Health Week 2026. The aim was to get men talking about all their health, including sexual health. A focus was reminding communities that looking after your health is about being proactive, being conscious of wellbeing, and accessing the support that is needed. For men, silence from stigma and shame is one of the biggest barriers for accessing needed healthcare, especially with regards to sexual health.

During the week we attended a men's health event in partnership with F.C United, reaching men who are often underrepresented in sexual health services. We also were featured on Crescent radio in Rochdale discussing all things sexual health, including asymptomatic STIs, the importance of regular testing and how far we have come with HIV treatment and PrEP. In addition to these activities we used social media to spread awareness and encouragement to a wider audience, promoting condoms, HIV/STI testing and PrEP.



BHA FOR EQUALITY

April - June 2026



BASHH/BHIVA CONFERENCE



BHA attended the 2026 joint BHIVA BASHH conference in Liverpool. We participated in two panel sessions and contributed to five conference posters.

At the event we had a stall showcasing our community co-produced resources and research that champions health equity in ethnically minoritised communities. It was a great opportunity to share our brand new guide: 'Living Well with Hepatitis B'.



'LIVING WELL WITH HEPATITIS B' GUIDE



From community research BHA has developed the 'Living Well with Hepatitis B' guide, highlighting the experiences of people living with hepatitis B across Greater Manchester and to support those individuals through their health journey.

Our work on hepatitis B will also include a new year-long peer support partnership with North Manchester Hospital, expanding support for ethnically minoritised people living with the condition.



BHA curated an online event to launch the new guide that featured guest speakers from UKHSA and Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust, to share insights on hepatitis B. We also presented our research findings and showcased our guide.



MENOPAUSE SESSION



We facilitated a group session with eight women at Conversation Over Borders, a bi-monthly peer support group for asylum-seeking and refugee women. The session focused on menopause, including common symptoms and available treatment options. The women used the opportunity to ask questions and share their own experiences, creating a valuable space for peer learning and mutual support. Cervical screening (smears) was also discussed, including the importance of attending regular appointments.

BHA are now offering HOME FULL-SCREEN STI tests.

You can test for Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, Syphilis, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and HIV, all from home.

Scan the QR code to order a test



The PaSH Partnership
Passionate about Sexual Health across Greater Manchester



BHA FOR EQUALITY

April - June 2026

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT GROUP

Our Women's Empowerment Group is still thriving with our ongoing sessions as we begin partnering in the communing ground project with the Whitworth Art Gallery. In our very first session as a partner, we had a beautiful sunny day where we discussed what it means to feel welcome in a space and how the outdoors can be meditative and grounding.

In one of our recent sessions we started our very own menopause plant beds, growing plants and herbs that can be used to alleviate perimenopause and menopause symptoms. During this activity, we discussed the 5 pillars of our wellbeing: community, connection, health, nature and spirit.



In another session we created summer mood boards showing our intentions for the season ahead. Whilst completing this activity we discussed migrant health and understanding of UK health services. Our next session will focus on weaving in nature and having discussions around creating home, community and how outdoor activities can connect us as women.

WHAT'S COMING?!

World Hepatitis Day 28th July

We will be producing a social media campaign spreading awareness of hepatitis.

Bolton Library Appointments 20th August & 17th September

To book an in-person HIV/STI test with us visit www.thebha.org.uk/gmtesting

Mela Festival 1st August Carnival Festival 8th August

We will be at two summer festivals offering free condoms, testing, resources and advice.

Pendleton Gateway Salford Appointments 27th August & 24th September

To book an in-person HIV/STI test with us visit www.thebha.org.uk/gmtesting

REFUGEE WEEK

During Refugee Week in Greater Manchester, BHA visited Rochdale town hall.



We offered attendees HIV & STI testing, condoms, sexual health resources & advice, all for free.

BHA offer a completely FREE and DISCREET Condom + Lube Delivery service

Scan the QR code to order



The PaSH Partnership
Passionate about Sexual Health across Greater Manchester

