# Factors associated with post-operative follow-up after voluntary medical male circumcision at twelve health facilities in five districts in Nyanza Province, Kenya

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# Background

- Voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) reduces HIV risk acquisition by up to 60%. Kenya has widely expanded VMMC services; by January 2011 and in less than four years 230,000 men had been circumcised in Nyanza Province alone.
- The current guidelines require a 7-day post-surgery follow-up visit to monitor outcomes,
- identify and treat adverse events (AEs), and reinforce risk reduction and sexual abstinence for 6-weeks postsurgery. However, a large proportion of men fail to return for follow-up. Characteristics of men who undergo VMMC and the factors associated with 7-day follow-up were examined.

## Methods

- Routinely collected program data of men circumcised between January 2011 and August 2012 at 12 health facilities in five districts in Nyanza Province, Kenya were analyzed
- Demographic characteristics (age, clinic locality, and referral source), and clinical data were abstracted from Ministry of Health medical records
- Logistic regression was used to examine associations between client demographic characteristics and those that attended 7day follow-up and those who did not

## Results

- Among 11,483 clients, the median age was 17 (IQR; 16-21) years and 6686 (58%) VMMC operations were performed at clinics in rural/semi-rural regions; 2588 (23%) had a 7-day follow-up visit. Most clients cited community mobilization 7461 (67%) as their referral source for VMMC services
- Adverse events at 7-day follow-up were reported by 95 (0.8%) men, with 6 (0.06%) being severe. There was a small increased likelihood of follow-up visit per 5-year age increase (OR=1.02; 95%CI 1.01-1.02)
- Men were more likely to return if the procedures were carried out at an urban/semi-urban vs. rural clinic (OR=2.60; 95%CI 2.36 - 2.86) and men were less likely to return for 7-day followup if referred through mobilization (OR=.67 (0.61 - 0.73)



# Conclusion

- Clients who underwent VMMC were relatively young, few reported AEs, and post-surgery 7-day follow-up was infrequent
- Clinic locality influenced 7-day follow-up visits; urban/semi-urban clinics saw higher 7-day followup visits yet the majority of surgeries were in rural clinics
- Although community mobilization prompted VMMC service uptake, it did not influence 7-day follow-up. Innovative interventions for clinic follow-up, particularly in more rural areas, are needed to ensure that VMMC clients are followed-up appropriately