Scale-up of Male Circumcision for HIV Prevention in Tanzania

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Background - 1

Following the results from the 3 trials AND Recommendation by WHO/UNAIDS

- A consultative meeting on MC
  - Evidence on the protective effect of MC
  - Issues around MC within the country
  - Strategies for follow up for programming
Resolutions of the Meeting

- Consensus among stakeholders on MC as an additional HIV intervention
- Steps to be taken in promoting MC
- Conduct situation analysis to collect detailed information on the missing info (gaps)
- Two Committees should be formed to oversee the operationalization
  - National Taskforce Committee
  - National Technical Working Group
- Formulation of legal, regulatory policy framework
Progress - 1

- Action plan was prepared to guide scale-up efforts

- National Leadership for MC scale up has been established
  - Two Committees were formed
  - A focal person at the MoH
  - Political Leadership very supportive

- A Situation Analysis (SA) for MC in Tanzania is on-going
  - SA is conducted in 3 Regions in Tanzania
  - This includes policy reviews and other regulations
Progress - 2

- Preparations are on-going for MC roll-out demo sites
  - In 3 Regions of Tanzania
  - Implementation to start as soon as SA results are finalised

- MC included in the R9 application to Global fund for HIV, TB and Malaria

- MC Guidelines for Health Practitioners have been drafted and training started
  - In the 3 sites prepared for MC roll-out demo sites
OR Needs - Uptake of MC

- What is the level of H/F based MC uptake in different communities?
  - Mobilisation
    - Reach different age groups
    - Communication strategy in different communities
  - Are the H/F able to meet the demand for MC?
OR Needs - Effectiveness of Counselling Sessions

- What’s the level of adherence to counselling?
  - Time to resume sexual activity
  - Behavioural disinhibition

- How do we increase adherence to counselling messages?
OR Needs - Safety

- What are the adverse events and its frequency?
  - Severity
  - Related to MC procedure
  - AE rates per MC service provider
    - Physicians
    - Non-Physicians
  - Do the EA decrease with experience?
- The performance of the referral system
OR Needs - Task Shifting/Task Sharing

- How does introduction of MC affect provision of other services at facility levels?
  - Not only MC, but a package for HIV prevention

- Can non-physician provide safe MC?
  - How can we ensure that quality services are provided and standards are monitored as the services are expanded?
OR Needs - Impact

- Cost-effectiveness and Population-level impact
  - Will perceived benefits of MC increase the demand for MC?
  - How will the H/F cope with increased demand?