

Greetings! Five years ago this month the World Health Organization and UNAIDS recommended expanding access to voluntary medical male circumcision as part of a comprehensive HIV-prevention strategy in areas with low prevalence of male circumcision and high rates of heterosexually acquired HIV.

This March 2012 issue of the newsletter of the **Clearinghouse on Male Circumcision for HIV Prevention** highlights resources on the site that document progress towards that goal and lessons learned, guidance on accelerating the scale-up of services, and an updated advocacy page. The Clearinghouse has received more than 97,000 visits from 203 countries since its launch in February 2009.

More newsletters will follow in coming months highlighting content that is added to the Web site as well as a new, more user-friendly design. We encourage you to submit materials to be considered for posting—please **contact the webmaster**.

Male Circumcision for HIV Prevention



A newsletter of the Clearinghouse on Male Circumcision for HIV Prevention

www.malecircumcision.org

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Latest News

Demand for male circumcision rising in Rwanda

More than 20,000 men have been circumcised in Rwanda since the government began its voluntary medical male circumcision programme in October 2010...

[Read more>>](#)

“My experience on the operating table”

New to the Site

Essential Reading

A New Investment Framework for the Global HIV Response

This issue brief from the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) describes a framework for investment in the global response to the epidemic based on evidence of what works in HIV prevention, treatment, care, and support. Voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) is one of the six basic programme activities the framework identifies as essential to an effective response.

Joint Strategic Action Framework to Accelerate

"It took about 15-20 minutes and I was now a circumcised male..."

[Read more>>](#)

Namibian health insurers approve male circumcision fee

Namibia's association of health insurers has approved a uniform fee for male circumcision, opening the way for private insurance coverage of the procedure...

[Read more>>](#)

Task-shifting is safe, review concludes

With proper training and supervision, the task of performing male circumcision can be shifted safely to non-physician clinicians in Africa...

[Read more>>](#)

Research Update

Male Circumcision at CROI 2012

The programme for the 19th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI 2012) included four abstracts about research on male circumcision.

[Read more>>](#)

Scientific reviews support infant male circumcision

The available evidence strongly supports infancy as the optimal time for male circumcision...

[Read more>>](#)

Lasting HIV protection shown in Rakai

Male circumcision continued to provide men with significant protection from heterosexually acquired HIV infection for almost five years...

[Read more>>](#)

Upcoming Events

XIXth International AIDS Conference, Washington, DC, USA 22-27 July 2012



the Scale-Up of Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision for HIV Prevention in Eastern and Southern Africa

This document articulates a five-year framework to guide accelerated scale-up of VMMC for HIV prevention in selected priority countries in eastern and southern Africa. It is intended for use by key stakeholders to collaborate and coordinate efforts along with national programmes. Partners who contributed to the framework include the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), UNAIDS, the World Bank, and the World Health Organization.

Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision for HIV Prevention: The Cost, Impact and Challenges of Accelerated Scale-Up in Southern and Eastern Africa

PLoS Medicine and *PLoS ONE* published this sponsored collection of nine articles in conjunction with UNAIDS and PEPFAR. The four reviews and five research articles in the collection address the impact of VMMC on HIV at the individual, community, and population levels, the resulting savings in HIV treatment costs, and the lessons from countries' scale-up efforts so far.

Resources and Tools

New Resources for Advocates

Dr. Speciosa Wandira, the first woman to serve as Uganda's vice president and now an advisor to President Museveni, is featured in a [podcast interview](#) discussing her work as an advocate for voluntary medical male circumcision and other HIV prevention methods. The interview is the first in a regular series of profiles of VMMC advocates and is one of several features added to update the Clearinghouse's advocacy page. Another new feature, [Tactical tools](#), presents key resources and provides practical tips on how each resource can be used as an advocacy tool.



Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision Communication Materials Adaptation Guide

Produced by the Communication for Change (C-Change) Project, this publication offers comprehensive guidance on communication for VMMC programmes scaling up services in new settings. It outlines a 10-step, participatory process for adapting materials to make them appealing and relevant to new audiences.

New Knowledge Base Topic on VMMC

The PEPFAR Technical Working Group for Male Circumcision recently commissioned an update to the AIDSTAR-One HIV Prevention Knowledge Base topic page on VMMC. The update includes summaries of the recently released *PLoS Medicine* series and other research, as well as several links to useful tools on male circumcision for HIV prevention.

Country Updates

MCC News, February 2012

The *MCC News* is a monthly electronic newsletter produced by the Male Circumcision Consortium for its fellow partners in the VMMC programme of the Government of Kenya and for others interested in



male circumcision for HIV prevention. Recent issues have covered research on men's and women's understanding of the concept of partial protection from HIV infection, results from studies of devices for performing adult male circumcisions, and the importance of abstaining from sex for six weeks post-circumcision.

Progress Report on Kenya's Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision Programme, 2008-2010

This report documents the challenges, achievements, and lessons learned from Kenya's experience in expanding access to male circumcision for HIV prevention.

The **Clearinghouse on Male Circumcision for HIV Prevention** is a global resource centre designed to expand access to information and resources on male circumcision for HIV prevention. It is supported by a grant to the World Health Organization (WHO) from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Please send questions or comments about the Clearinghouse newsletter or the Web site to the **webmaster**.