RHSP’s Social and Behavioral (SB) Studies

Neema Nakyanjo
Social & Behavioral Studies (SBS)

SBS are integrated in all RHSP work in different ways:

- Randomized trial designs (initial and continuous)
- Interpreting quantitative analyses (less men in services)
- Designing and improving HIV prevention and care services
- Program message development (MMC trial)
- Answering other stand alone questions (life transition among adolescents)
Qualitative Research (QR) Key Questions

QR explores people’s perceptions, opinions, beliefs and attitudes

- How do people behave?

- Why do they behave the way they do?
Social & Behavioral (SB) Studies

- Qualitative Research methods (major)
  - *In-depth Interviews (one-on-one)*
  - *Focus Group Discussions (8-10 people)*
  - *Observations (e.g. in a bar to observe sex-workers’ behaviors)*
## Salient Lessons from the Different Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC) Studies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barriers</th>
<th>Facilitators</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Male infertility</td>
<td>• HIV/STI prevention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Change of religion</td>
<td>• Improved penile hygiene</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Pain (esp. after surgery)</td>
<td>• HIV Testing Services (HTS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Long sex resumption period/sex abstinence</td>
<td>• <strong>Female partner influence</strong></td>
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<td>• Male sexual prowess</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Time off work</td>
<td>• Male &amp; female sexual pleasure</td>
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</tbody>
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- Pain (esp. after surgery)
- Long sex resumption period/sex abstinence
- *Female partner influence*
Salient Lessons from the Different HIV Care Studies

Barriers:

• Stigma
• Fear to disclose HIV+ status
• Lack of partner support
• High transport costs
• Negative side effects
• Long travel and waiting times
• Inadequate staff respect for patients

Targeted interventions:

• Couple counselling intensified
• Health education programs
• Decentralising ART provision/Outreach
• Patient-friendly and flexible clinic service hours.
Women’s role in male circumcision promotion in Rakai, Uganda

Neema Nakyano, Danielle Piccinini, Alice Kisakye, Ping Teresa Yeh ORCID Icon, William Ddaaki, Godfrey Kigozi, Ronald H. Gray & Caitlin E. Kennedy

HIV self-testing values and preferences among sex workers, fishermen, and mainland community members in Rakai, Uganda: A qualitative study

Virginia M. Burke1, Neema Nakyano2, William Ddaaki2, Caitlin Payne3, Naadiya Hutchinson1, Maria J. Wawer4, Fred Naluuga5, Caitlin E. Kennedy1

Risk Denial and Socio-Economic Factors Related to High HIV Transmission in a Fishing Community in Rakai, Uganda: A Qualitative Study

Muhamadi Lubega1,2,3,4, Neema Nakyano1, Sumaya Nansubuga2, Edgar Hlire1, Godfrey Kigozi1, Gertrude Nakigozi1, Tom Lutalo1, Fred Naluuga1, David Serwadda1, Ronald Gray1,5, Maria Wawer1,5, Caitlin Kennedy7, Steven James Reynolds1,4,5

Qualitative insights into implementation, processes, and outcomes of a randomized trial on peer support and HIV care engagement in Rakai, Uganda

April Monroe1, Gertrude Nakigoz1, William Ddaaki2, Jeremiah Mulumba Bazaale1, Ronald H. Gray2, Maria J. Wawer2, Steven J. Reynolds1, Caitlin E. Kennedy1 and Larry W. Chang1,2,3,7

Sources: R01MH105313 (PI: Kennedy); R01MH107275 (PI: Chang); D43TW009578 (PI: Gray)
Lesson

• SB studies greatly contribute to proper designing and improvement of research and service delivery.