PARTNER TESTING SERVICES TO ACHIEVE HIV EPIDEMIC CONTROL IN 9 PEPFAR COUNTRIES, 2019 (Poster # 0941)

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Background

- The US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) supports HIV prevention programs in most HIV endemic countries.
- Programs provide index case testing (ICT) as an HIV case finding strategy.
- Data are collected on ICT services and other HIV program indicators across all PEPFAR supported sites as part of routine Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (MER) data collection.
- These MER data are used to measure progress towards HIV epidemic control and reaching the First 90 (90% of people living with HIV know their HIV status) of the UNAIDS 90-90-90 targets.

Methods:

- To evaluate progress towards reaching the First 90, we performed a descriptive analysis of MER data reported from October 2018 to March 2019, by 9 countries (Eswatini, Namibia, South Africa, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Uganda, Mozambique, Nigeria and Cote d'Ivoire).
- These 9 countries were selected based on HIV prevalence and their need to scale up HIV prevention activities.
- We present key indicators relating HIV testing and ICT services

Results

- Three countries that were within 6% of achieving the First 90 (Namibia 4%, South Africa 5%, Rwanda 6%) had the lowest proportion of HIV-positive cases who accepted ICT services (Namibia 66%, South Africa 52%, Rwanda 28%).
- Countries that had a larger gap to reaching the First 90 (Mozambique 18%, Nigeria 23%, Cote d'Ivoire 40%) showed a higher acceptance rate of ICT services (Mozambique 87%, Nigeria 74%, Cote d'Ivoire 94%).
- Three countries met the PEPFAR benchmark of having each index case elicit at least 1.5 contacts >15 years old (Namibia 1.6, Uganda 1.7, Mozambique 1.5); two countries showed a high percentage of contacts aged 15+ testing positive (Namibia 98%, Mozambique 94%), suggesting few of those contacts were known positives.
- Despite being high HIV prevalence countries (Eswatini 27.4%), (Namibia 12.1%), (South Africa 18.8%) and closest to the 1st 90, these countries reported low HIV positives per 100 index (Eswatini 14, Namibia 19, South Africa 3)

Table

Table 1. HIV Prevalence, Gap to the First 90, and HIV index case testing outcomes from 9 PEPFAR funded Countries among 15+ year olds, October 2018-March, 2019

Country	HIV Prevalence (%)	% gap to 1st 90*	Index cases acceptance of ICT** (N)%	Contacts aged 15+ elicited per index case	Contacts who tested positive (N)%++	Number of HIV positives per 100 index cases
Eswatini	**27.4***	3	**(17, 239) 95**	1.0	**(1317) 30**	14
Namibia	**12.1***	4	**(843) 66**	1.6	**(1193) 98**	19
South Africa	**18.8§**	5¥	**(59,495) 52**	0.8	**(10013) 57**	3
Rwanda	**2.7§**	6	**(12, 359) 28**	1.3	**(577) 31**	16
Ethiopia	**3.0*+**	17	**(18,791) 80**	0.8	**(1216) 52**	39
Uganda	**5.9***	17	**(98,949) 85**	1.7	**(16837) 64**	17
Mozambique	**12.5***	18§	**(46,208) 87**	1.5	**(17793) 94**	14
Nigeria	**1.4§**	23§	**(53,888) 74**	1.0	**(6390) 48**	11
Cote d'Ivoire	**2.9***	40	**(78,579) 94**	0.8	**(10,227) 71**	36

Abbreviations: CI = confidence interval; ICT =Index Case Testing; N = number

* Source: Population-based HIV impact assessment (PHIA) survey. This is the most recent country data

¥ The Fifth South African National HIV Prevalence, Incidence, Behavior and Communication Survey, 2017 (SABBSM V

§ Source: UNAIDS, UNAIDS https://www.unaids.org/en/regionscountries/countries, 2018, The confidence interval is as reported by UNAIDS

++The percent represent newly identified positives/all positives contacts identified

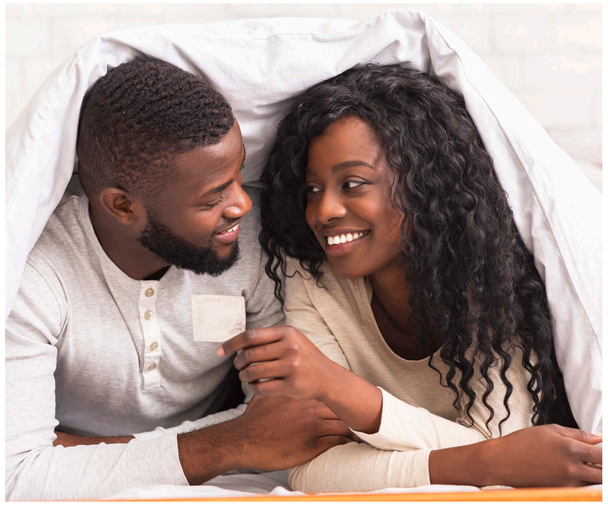
+ Ethiopia Public Health Impact Asssessment Survey results is the HIV prevalence among adults 15-64 years in urban areas

Conclusions

- These findings suggest that select countries closer to achieving the First 90 target with high HIV burden (Namibia, South Africa and Rwanda) tend to have a lower rate of index test acceptance.
- These results also suggest that index case testing is an effective strategy for HIV case finding with relatively high positivity rates
- Programs should identify quality improvement strategies to maximize provision of index case testing services

Limitation

- Countries monitor and track index case acceptance of index case testing differently



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