RESEARCH PUBLISHED


Social inclusion is increasingly highlighted as a key outcome of global mental health policies and programs, however, its measurement is underdeveloped. This systematic review of social inclusion measures for populations with mental disorders revealed few scale options and a strong need for additional scale development, adaptation and testing in low- and middle-income countries.


Female sex workers are among the highest risk key populations for targeting HIV prevention tools and messages. This article describes the latest scientific data on the various methods women can use, either singly or in combination, to protect themselves from HIV.


Sayana Press was found acceptable and safe in diverse settings. This provides evidence that Sayana Press could reduce unwanted family planning need if introduced into family planning programs. Clients would select it, and providers — including trained community health workers, particularly in areas with provider shortages — could administer it.


The findings suggest that some women who are at substantial risk of acquiring HIV may underestimate their actual risk. Understanding and responding to women’s rationalizations about their HIV risks could enhance their use of risk reduction methods and should be explored during HIV risk counseling.


Financial concerns and fear of pain are the top barriers to male circumcision among men 18–35 years. Men need accurate and detailed information on what to expect during and after voluntary medical male circumcision, regarding both pain and time away from work. This information should be incorporated into demand creation activities for men considering circumcision.


This is the first measurement of HIV incidence in Chikwico, the province with the highest HIV prevalence in the country, and demonstrates some of the risk factors for infection as well as the need for more vigorous prevention programs.


This is the first published data on performance of the Prexel device outside of Rwanda. These data will be vital for the Kenya Ministry of Health to decide on the potential role of Prexel in the national Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision program.


Hodder SL, HPTN 064 Study Team. The research findings indicate that the approach for incorporating family planning demand-generating activities into routine child immunization programs was not effective in increasing contraceptive uptake. This paper describes the sexual-risk-taking behaviors of Luo widows and inheritors in Nyanza Province, Kenya, and considers the potential for Luo widows to use pre-exposure prophylaxis during the time leading up to and immediately after engaging in these behaviors.


This study highlights the importance of policy makers, programmers and researchers ensuring the availability of choice in HIV prevention methods.


Antiretroviral (ARV) drugs have been shown to be highly effective for HIV prevention when used as pre-exposure prophylaxis to prevent HIV acquisition and as ARV treatment for HIV-infected patients to prevent onward transmission (treatment as prevention [TtP]). We now need to learn how best to use these powerful tools to achieve maximum public health impact.


Sex work is illegal in Botswana, and HIV prevention programs for female sex workers, as well as other key populations, are in their infancy in this country. This landmark study provided the first-ever HIV prevalence data, as well as a demographic and behavioral profile, for this group. Following the study, the Ministry of Health is planning to locate sterilization to provide clinical services to female sex workers, and key populations are on the HIV prevention agenda in Botswana. The U.S. Agency for International Development is planning to fund a follow-up in 2015.


This data-driven editorial extends previous arguments made for the connections between family planning and development goals from the Millennium Development Goal era to the post-2015 agenda. The evidence presented in this editorial for the importance of family planning, particularly for sexual and reproductive health care, is an essential component of the new global development framework.


Small economic incentives can modestly increase circumcision prevalence by addressing reported economic barriers to voluntary male circumcision (VMMC) and behavioral factors, such as present-bias decision making. While incentives alone do not address all reasons why men do not become circumcised, study results suggest that programmatic and research interventions that seek to increase demand for VMMC should include incentives as one of their demand-generating strategies.


The research findings indicate that the approach for incorporating family planning demand-generating activities into routine child immunization programs was not effective in increasing contraceptive uptake. However, results from qualitative findings indicate that this approach has promise but may need to be embedded more systematically into management strategies to be effective and sustainable.