

PROJECT BRIEF

PROJECT SETTING

Lumbombo region of Swaziland

COMDIS HSD PARTNER

Good Shepherd Mission Hospital,
Swaziland

This study addresses the following COMDIS HSD themes:

- Accessible & user-friendly service
- Quality of Care
- Primary care



Developing a new service delivery model for scale-up of male circumcision services in the Lumbombo region of Swaziland.

BACKGROUND

Swaziland has one of the most severe HIV epidemics in the world, with an estimated prevalence of 26% for the adult population of reproductive age, 15–49 years. In 2007, the WHO advocated that male circumcision should be incorporated into HIV prevention measures in countries with low circumcision and generalised epidemics, including Swaziland, after three randomised controlled trials showed that male circumcision can reduce HIV transmission by between 38% and 66%.

Male circumcision as HIV prevention was introduced to Swaziland in 2009, initially using an integrated approach to HIV prevention. In 2011, an intensive campaign, Soka Uncobe, was launched, aiming to circumcise 80% of males within one year. The campaign had limited success, with less than 10% of males being circumcised during the year. Stand-alone campaign clinics are still operational, however, no services provide a fully integrated model of male circumcision for HIV prevention within Swaziland.

AIMS

The aim of this study is to develop an integrated male circumcision service in Good Shepherd Hospital and for the Lubombo region of Swaziland, which can be rolled out to the rest of Swaziland and other high HIV prevalence countries if effective.

OBJECTIVES

- Establish a model for an integrated male circumcision service within a rural hospital, and for the surrounding region
- Evaluate whether an integrated or stand-alone clinic model of male circumcision service constitutes a more effective method for increasing overall numbers of male circumcisions for hospital services in Swaziland and other high HIV prevalence countries.

THE STUDY

This is a quasi-experimental, operational study which aims to develop an integrated male circumcision service for HIV prevention and then evaluate the

service, in comparison to stand-alone clinics. The integrated service will work within current HIV prevention and treatment services within Good Shepherd Hospital and surrounding clinics, with HIV negative men and boys routinely offered male circumcision as part of HIV prevention.

The study will compare an integrated model of delivery with a stand-alone clinic over a six month time frame comparing numbers of males circumcised, proportions receiving counselling, post-operative follow up, complication rates and patient satisfaction.



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