

# PC49 Acceptability of CD Among Participants During Pilot Phase at MDP Zambia

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## **ABSTRACT TEXT**

### Introduction:

The coital diaries is one of the social science tool that is used to trace product use, among the study participants, over the course of the month and quantifying the product use in conjunction with other practices such as condom use and the use of vaginal inserts. Analysis of associations between coital diary, in-depth interview and data from case record forms assisted in identifying relationships between adherence and barriers to use with socio-demographic factors. The comparison of coital diary and CRF data on sexual behavior assessed similarities in the data obtained using the different collection techniques, especially with respect to recall errors.

### Objectives:

To document reasons that leads to low acceptability of the CD among participants.

### Method:

In the pilot study, about 40 female participants were enrolled. All female participants were asked to keep coital diaries that were piloted during the feasibility study whilst they were using the gel where they would record details of their sexual behavior, gel and condom use. The diaries were completed on a weekly basis with new diaries given to the participant each week when they brought a completed diary or followed-up by a member of the social science team. The week four coital diaries were used to triangulate data with the case record form during an IDI for both female participants and some of their spouses.

### Results:

Most (35) of the participants accepted the Coital diary, they said that it was easy to use, to keep, and that it also helped them know the frequency of sexual acts and gel use in a week. Among the 35 participants who accepted the use of coital diary, 15 said that the coital diary was easy to keep, while 12 said that the coital diary helped them knowing the frequency of their sexual acts in a week. Some of the female participants (11) of the above responses also mentioned that their partners were aware about the CD and accepted it. All the 9 male participants who participated in the IDIs said that they found the coital diary to be acceptable; however some found it surprising at first (that it would reveal secrets) not until there partners explained what the diary was.

### Conclusion:

Coital diary is widely accepted tool in reminding participants on the use of study product and other sexual practices.

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