

INFORMATION SHEET

Study Title: Sexual behaviors of circumcised men in a practice in Alexandra

Dear Sir, my name is Dr Josephine Asare-Bediako, I am a Master's student in the School of Public Health, University of Witwatersrand. As part of my Master's Degree, I will be conducting a study to investigate sexual behaviors of men after circumcision in this practice at Alexandra. In this study, I would like to find out if circumcision has any impact on sexual behavior of men.

What is the purpose of this study?

You are being asked to take part in this research study because:

- you have been circumcised three months ago at this practice
- you are between the age 18-49 years
- you live in Alexandra

Before you decide if you decide to join this study, we want you to know about the study. We will explain the study to you. You are free to ask questions at any time. If you decide to join, we will ask you to sign or mark this consent form (in front of a witness, if needed). You will be offered a copy to keep.

The primary goal of the study is to understand the sexual behaviors of men after circumcision and to develop key messages to address any findings. Before you decide to participate, we would like you to understand why the research is being done, and what it would involve for you.

What are some general things you should know about research studies?

Your participation in this research study is completely voluntary. You may refuse to join or withdraw your consent to be in the study for any reason and at any time.

You are free to decide to leave the study or not to participate in the study before it is done and it will not affect your relationship with the researcher or University of Witwatersrand. It will not pose any risk or harm to you.

Details about this study are discussed below. It is important that you understand this information so that you can make an informed choice about being in this research study.

What is involved in the study?

If you agree to take part in this survey,

- we will ask for your permission to visit the Alexandra Family Practice to sign a consent form
- Thereafter, you will be asked to participate in an interview by a researcher, using a questionnaire.

- The questions will enquire about your sexual behavior after circumcision three months ago.
- Other questions will include your HIV status. Please note that this information will be regarded as very confidential and not disclosed to anyone.
- The interview will last for about thirty minutes.
- You will be among 143 circumcised men invited for this study and all will be residents of Alexandra, South Africa.

There are no risks involved in this study.

What are the possible benefits of this study?

Research is designed to benefit society by gaining new knowledge. This study may not be of direct benefit to you. The results of the study will be shared with you and with the management of this practice and Centre for HIV/AIDS Prevention Studies (CHAPS).

Reimbursements

You will be reimbursed for your transportation per study visit.

Confidentiality

You have the right to privacy. The principal investigator will keep information about your participation in locked files. The information you provide in the questionnaires, will be labelled with a code to ensure your privacy. This means that your personal information will be removed so that no one will be able to link any of the information to you personally.

Organizations that may inspect and/or copy your research records for quality assurance and data analysis include groups such as the Research Ethics Committee.

Publication of the results of the research: The results of this research may appear in scientific publications without identifying you in any way.

The investigator listed on the first page of this form is available to answer your questions about this research. You may contact the investigator at any time on the following number (0836555929). If you require any further information or have any questions/complaints about the study please contact the Human Research Ethics Committee of the University of the Witwatersrand on (011) 717-1234

YOU WILL HAVE A COPY OF THIS INFORMATION SHEET TO KEEP

If you are happy to take part in the study please read and sign the attached consent form and contact us to confirm your participation.

Your signature on the consent form certifies the following:

- You have read the information provided in this consent form .
- You have received answers to all of your questions.

- You have freely decided to participate in this research.
- You understand that you are not giving up any of your legal rights.