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Perceptions around the role of female health workers in performing male circumcision as an HIV/AIDS prevention strategy in South Africa.

Mutunga, Lillian Ngina

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Appendix 1A Ethical Approval

UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND, JOHANNESBURG

Division of the Deputy Registrar (Research)

HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE (NON-MEDICAL)
R14/49/1 Mutunga

CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE	**PROTOCOL NUMBER H080805**
PROJECT	Perceptions around the role of female health workers performing male circumcision as a public health HIV/AIDS prevention strategy in South Africa
INVESTIGATORS	Ms LN Mutunga
DEPARTMENT	Developmental Studies
DATE CONSIDERED	15.08.2008
DECISION OF THE COMMITTEE*	Approve subject to
NOTE:	Written approval from the site is submitted

This ethical clearance is valid for 2 years and may be renewed upon application

DATE 09.09.2008 **CHAIRPERSON** .....
(Professor R Thornton)

cc: Supervisor : Prof R Thornton

DECLARATION OF INVESTIGATOR(S)

To be completed in duplicate and **ONE COPY** returned to the Secretary at Room 10004, 10th Floor, Senate House, University.

I/We fully understand the conditions under which I am/we are authorized to carry out the abovementioned research and I/we guarantee to ensure compliance with these conditions. Should any departure to be contemplated from the research procedure as approved I/we undertake to resubmit the protocol to the Committee. **I agree to a completion of a yearly progress report.**

.....
Signature

This ethical clearance is valid for two years from date of approval.
PLEASE QUOTE THE PROTOCOL NUMBER IN ALL ENQUIRIES

Appendix 1B Ethical Approval

UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND, JOHANNESBURG

Division of the Deputy Registrar (Research)

HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE (NON-MEDICAL)
R14/49/1 Mutunga

CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE	**PROTOCOL NUMBER H1001119**
PROJECT	Perceptions around the role of female health workers performing male circumcision as a public health HIV/AIDS prevention strategy in South Africa
INVESTIGATORS	Ms LN Mutunga
DEPARTMENT	Developmental Studies
DATE CONSIDERED	15.08.2008
DECISION OF THE COMMITTEE*	Approve Unconditionally
NOTE:	Recertification of H080805, change of research site

This ethical clearance is valid for 2 years and may be renewed upon application

DATE 09.09.2008 **CHAIRPERSON** .....
(Professor R Thornton)

cc: Supervisor : Prof R Thornton

DECLARATION OF INVESTIGATOR(S)

To be completed in duplicate and **ONE COPY** returned to the Secretary at Room 10004, 10th Floor, Senate House, University.

I/We fully understand the conditions under which I am/we are authorized to carry out the abovementioned research and I/we guarantee to ensure compliance with these conditions. Should any departure to be contemplated from the research procedure as approved I/we undertake to resubmit the protocol to the Committee. **I agree to a completion of a yearly progress report.**

.....
Signature

This ethical clearance is valid for two years from date of approval.
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Appendix 2. Information sheet and Informed consent forms

My name is Lillian Ngina Mutunga and I am a student at the University of Witwatersrand I am conducting research with the aim of obtaining a Master of Arts degree in Development Studies and I would like invite you to participate in this research.

My research will be centred on the perceptions around the role of female health workers in conducting male circumcision as part of HIV/AIDS prevention strategy in South Africa. Of later there has been a call for male circumcision to be adopted into a public health policy for HIV/AIDS prevention. This was after research established that it has the potential to reduce the rate of infection significantly**. I am interested in finding out how acceptable it would be for female health workers to conduct male circumcision.**

Your participation in the study will include participating in an in-depth interview that will be conducted by me and where need be a translator, lasting for about an hour or an hour and a half. Where need be, a second interview will be scheduled. The interview will be carried out as per your convenience and it will be entirely voluntary on your part. During the interview, you will be free to answer or refuse to answer any question and also leave the study at any time. All your responses will be kept confidential. The information you will provide will not bear your name or any other thing that may associate it with you and will only be accessible to me and my supervisor. Participation in the study will neither be of any direct advantage to you nor will you be disadvantaged in any way by choosing not to participate.

If you agree to participate you will be require to sign the informed consent form attached, allowing me to interview you and to record the interview. Together we will schedule a time and place that is convenient to you for the interview. The tapes will be availed t to you if you so desire and the results of the study will also be shared with you. Should you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me or my supervisor on the numbers provided below.

Lillian Ngina 073 075 2037 Dr Terry-Ann Selikow 011 717 448

Thank you for your time.

Kind Regards,

Lillian Ngina Mutunga.

I …….. (Initials) have read the information provided on this study and I understand:

- That my participation in the study is entirely voluntary.
- That I am free to discontinue my participation at any time
- That the information I will provide will be treated with utmost confidentiality and will not be linked to me in anyway.
- That I will neither lose nor benefit in any way by agreeing or disagreeing to participate in the study.

And in light of the above, have accepted to participate in this study.

……

Date and Signature of participant

I further consent to the interview being tape recorded in order to ensure accuracy. I understand that tapes maybe availed to me if I so wish.

……..

Date and signature of Participant.

Appendix 3 In-depth guide

INTRODUCTION AND CONSENT

Good day, my name is Lillian Mutunga and I am a student at the university of the Witwatersrand. I am currently pursuing an MA in development studies. As part of my course work, I am required to undertake a research and the following interview is part of the preparation process. We will go through the information sheet and the informed consent form so that you can understand the process and what is required of you. If you agree to participate, I will then need you to sign the consent form

Are you ready to start?

Start time_____

1. **Gender. Now I am going to ask you some questions about some of your experiences in the hospital with male and female health workers. Remember, there are no right or wrong answers and feel free to let me know if you are unable to answer any question.**

   - Have you ever been served by a male doctor? Female doctor?
   - Was there any difference in the service between the two?
   - Suppose at the hospital you are given an option of being served by a male or female health worker? Which would you choose? why
   - Are there some things you can ask a male doctor that you can't ask a female doctor and vice versa? Which and why
   - Which are you more comfortable with? Which do you find easier to talk to? Why
   - Have you ever heard of people who prefer a doctor of a certain gender?
   - What are some of the reasons they give?

   EXPLORE OTHER MARKERS AS THEY ARISE)

2. **Culture. I am now going to ask you questions about cultural practises in general and your community**.

   - What community do you come from?
   - What are some of the cultural practises of your community?
   - Do you practise any of these? Which ones?
   - Have you ever been in a situation where you were asked to do something that was against your culture? What was it? What did you do?
   - Have you ever heard of someone who was asked to do something that was against their culture? What did they do?
   - Is there room for culture in the modern society? Explain.

- What would you do if you were asked to do something that you felt was against your cultural beliefs? Explain
- Does it matter how you are asked? Or why you are asked?
- (EXPLORE OTHER MARKERS AS THEY ARISE)

3. **Male Circumcision. In the information sheet, you read about male circumcision. I will now ask your opinion on the topic of male circumcision. Again there are no right or wrong answers and feel free to let me know if you are unable to answer any question**

    - Does your community practise male circumcision?
    - How was it conducted in the olden days?
    - How is it conducted nowadays? (At home, in initiation schools, hospital)
    - Does it matter to people where it is done?
    - Apart from the information that I provide you with earlier, have you heard of the connection between male circumcision and HIV/AIDS?
    - Where did you hear? What did you think about it?
    - Would you advocate for people to be circumcised?
    - Do you think it would matter where it is done? (home, initiation school or hospital)
    - If it was done in the hospital, would it matter whether it was done by a male or female doctor? Why
    - Do you think people would mind where or who does male circumcision?
    - What are some of the reasons they can give for refusing circumcision done at the hospital?
    - What are some of the reasons they can give for refusing circumcision performed by a female health worker?
    - Would the age of the person being circumcised matter?
    - What would be the most desirable age for male circumcision conducted by a female health worker?

    EXPLORE OTHER MARKERS AS THEY ARISE)

Is there anything around what we have discussed that we did not address that you would like to add?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME!!!!

END TIME…….