



**HPTN**

HIV Prevention  
Trials Network

# **HPTN 083 Community Educator Session**

## **Making Sites Welcoming to Participants**

**Ntando Yola**

**Desmond Tutu HIV Centre – CTU**

**Cape Town – South Africa**

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**Desmond Tutu HIV Centre**

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# *You become afraid to tell them that you are gay:*

# Health service utilization by men who have sex with men in South African cities.

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## Original Article

### *You become afraid to tell them that you are gay: Health service utilization by men who have sex with men in South African cities*

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**Abstract** We describe the utilization of health services by men who have sex with men (MSM) in South African cities, their perceptions of available health services, and their service preferences. We triangulated data from 32 key informant interviews (KIs), 18 focus group discussions (FGDs) with MSM in four cities, and a survey of 285 MSM in two cities, recruited through respondent-driven sampling in 2008. FGDs and KIs revealed that targeted public health sector programs for MSM were limited, and that MSM experienced stigma, discrimination, and negative health worker attitudes. Fifty-seven per cent of the survey participants had used public health services in the previous 12 months, and 69 per cent had no private health insurance, with no difference by HIV status. Despite these findings, South Africa is well placed to take the lead in sub-Saharan Africa in providing responsive and appropriate HIV services for MSM.

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**Keywords:** men who have sex with men; health service utilization; HIV programs; South Africa



**Health Care Provision for  
men who have sex with men,  
sex workers, and people who use drugs**

An Introductory Manual for  
Health Care Workers in South Africa

1st Edition 2013  
Editors: Ben Brown, Zoe Duby & Delene Van Dyk



**health**

Department:  
Health  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



This manual is dedicated to any individual who has experienced discrimination when seeking health care or who has been denied the care and support they deserve.

# HEALTH CARE PROVISION PRE-COURSE EVALUATION AND QUESTIONNAIRE

Before using this manual or participating in a related training programme, please complete the following questions.

**C4** Have you ever received sensitisation training for Men who have sex with Men (MSM) before?

**C8** In the past 3 months, have you provided health services to any Male clients who disclosed having sex with other men?

**C15** Have you ever provided a client with counselling or information on anal sex?

**C16** Have you ever provided a client with water-based lubricants for anal sex?

<b>D4</b>	<b>Men who have sex with men are stigmatised because:</b>	a. They engage in immoral behaviour	<input type="checkbox"/>
		b. They engage in unnatural behaviour	<input type="checkbox"/>
		c. They are mentally ill	<input type="checkbox"/>
		d. Homosexuality is a sickness	<input type="checkbox"/>
		e. They are rude	<input type="checkbox"/>
		f. They engage in disgusting behaviour	<input type="checkbox"/>

# MODULE

# 3

## **HUMAN SEXUALITY AND SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR**

### **Learning Outcomes:**

After completion of this module, you should be able to:

- i Describe the difference between sex, gender, sexual orientation, and sexual behaviour
- ii Describe the difference between transgender and intersex
- iii Define anal sex, describe who has anal sex, and explain why people engage in anal sex
- iv Explain why understanding human sexuality and sexual behaviour is important when working with key populations
- v List other common sexual practices that key populations engage in

## WHAT CAN I DO AS A HEALTH WORKER?

- Start talking openly and honestly with colleagues and clients about key populations
- Be specific and clear in the language you use, especially about sex and drugs
- Try to be more accepting and less judgemental
- Integrate SW/PWUD/MSM into existing services
- Make information relating to SW/PWUD/MSM available in our facilities
- Network with other organisations already working with SW/PWUD/MSM to get advice
- Use appropriate language
- Educate, train and sensitise all clinic staff (including cleaners etc.) – regularly
- Market services as SW/PWUD/MSM friendly
- Raise awareness of anal STIs
- Create a safe and supportive environment
- Advocate for availability to condom-compatible lubricants
- Be open to learning from key populations. Patients are the experts in their own lives.

- An individual health care worker can improve service delivery to MSM, sex workers, and PWUD by:
  - Establish a welcoming environment in their health care setting by engaging with MSM, sex workers, and PWUD who visit health care centres and those in the surrounding community
  - Be educated about MSM, sex workers, and PWUD and do not make assumptions about their behaviour
  - Establishing a trusting and supportive relationship and respect the confidentiality of these clients
  - Provide client-centred advice and recommendations that do not include judgemental or personal values
  - Use appropriate language and ask for clarification
  - Provide appropriate services and act as a referral pathway into care



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