



CAPRISA

CENTRE FOR THE AIDS PROGRAMME OF RESEARCH IN SOUTH AFRICA



CAPRISA IS A UNAIDS
COLLABORATING CENTRE
FOR HIV PREVENTION RESEARCH

Promoting adherence since March 2013: Recent innovations

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MTN Regional Meeting 2013

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Presentation Content

- Social Clubs
- Male Involvement Workshops
- Milestone Awards



CAPRISA eThekweni Site



Social Club

- ❑ Aim: Enhance rapport between site staff and participants. To allow participants to view their study participation as a partnership in the search for an effective HIV prevention strategy.
- ❑ Occurs once a month (2 – 3 hour sessions)
Planned for a day on which there is no ASPIRE clinic. Usually on a Friday that is set aside for staff training.
- ❑ Twenty participants invited per session so that all are comfortable with participating in the discussion and can get involved.

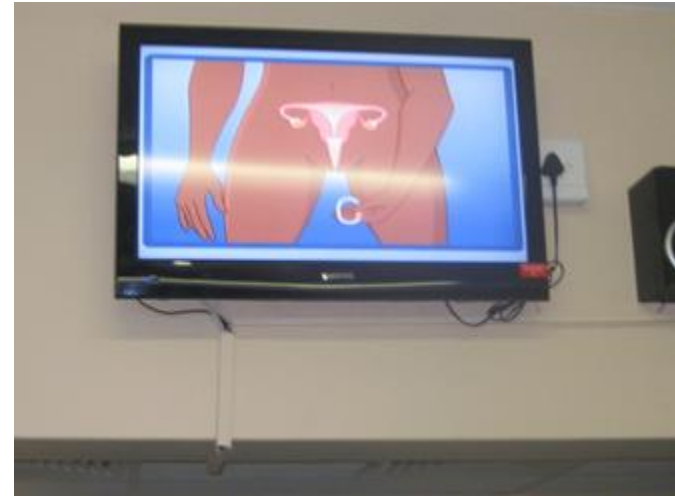
Social Club

- ❑ Topics discussed: Adherence to study product, contraception, challenges experienced with study participation, risk perception etc. Topics unrelated to the study which will empower women - ie job and tertiary education opportunities/motivational talks and skills development.
- ❑ These topics are addressed in a fun way with games, activities etc.
- ❑ Topics are included dependent on the current study implementation challenge

Social Club

- ❑ Microbicide DVD: “Hope against HIV. Microbicide trials in your community”.
- ❑ Educational DVD that answers commonly asked questions about microbicides and research taking place in Africa and around the world. The DVD clearly describes the complex process of developing and testing microbicide rings and gels, highlighting the importance of adherence.
- ❑ Developed by Population Council with support from IPM and the US agency for International Development.

Social Club



Social Club

- ❑ Questions / Comments during the social club:
- ❑ Participants suggested that if a participant is found not to be using the product she must be given a warning and if she does it again she must be terminated from the study.
- ❑ Some participants attending the social club admitted to other participants present at the social club that they did not use the study product at prior study visits, and when this was detected by study staff the importance of adherence was emphasised.

Social Club

- Questions / Comments during the social club:
- Some participants attending the social club disclosed that they were aware of other participants that were not using the ring (from discussions in the waiting room)
- How will study staff know that the ring works if participants are requested to use condoms?
- If I don't have a partner anymore will I be terminated from the study?

Social Club

- Questions / Comments during the social club:
- Why is it important to adhere to a study product?
- What if a participant is admitted in hospital, how will hospital staff know that the participant is wearing the ring?
- Why do some participants bleed after having a pap smear?

Social Club

- ❑ Positive comments during the social club:
- ❑ “I am a parent who wants to make a difference, my child will be proud of me participating in a fight for a HIV free generation”
- ❑ “I owe it to myself and the community at large to participate”

Male Involvement Workshop

- ❑ Aim: To increase community awareness around HIV prevention and other topics that impact on men and women's health. To facilitate disclosure of study participation to partners. A recruitment strategy aimed at encouraging men to refer their partners for study participation.
- ❑ Once per quarter on a Saturday (2 – 3 hours per session).
- ❑ Up to 30 men invited including participants partners.

Male Involvement Workshop

Date	16 March 2013 (on site)	11 May 2013 (on site)	31 August 2013 (on site)	28 September 2013 (Community)
Total males attended	33 Males attended	22 Males attended	17 Males attended	33 Males attended
Total partners attended	2 Partners	5 Partners	4 Partners	6 Partners
% of partners attended	6%	23%	24%	18%

Male Involvement Workshop

- On site sessions preferred:
- Site is centrally situated.
- More planning required when events are in the community ie transport of staff off site, arrangements made to have materials/tools available off site etc
- Allows attendees to familiarise themselves with the clinic setting

Male Involvement Workshop

- ❑ Invited speakers: TAC, Brothers for Life etc
- ❑ Topics: HIV prevention, MMC, contraception, alcohol and drug abuse, information about the ASPIRE study, community myths about research.
- ❑ Services offered: VCT, referral for MMC, referral for CD4 count.
- ❑ Activities: Group dialogue, condom use demonstrations (male and female condoms).

Male Involvement Workshop

- ❑ Male involvement sessions are held at the clinical trial site or off-site (community)
- ❑ In clinic sessions:
- ❑ For male partners to see the site, to increase familiarity with health-care settings/facilities, used as a strategy to encourage men to access and receive services; i.e. HIV Counselling and testing etc.
- ❑ Off-site sessions:
- ❑ Increase site staff visibility, enhance community engagement and partnership, reach more men in the community.

Male Involvement Workshop

- ❑ Recruitment of men for the workshop:
- ❑ Participants volunteer their partner's contacts.
- ❑ Men are recruited during community events.
- ❑ Men are also referred by NGO's who operate in the communities.

- ❑ Logistics/scheduling:
- ❑ Light refreshments are provided.
- ❑ Central meeting place is arranged and transport provided.
- ❑ Services provided such as VCT, CD4 referrals and MMC referrals.

Male Involvement Workshop



Male Involvement Workshop

- Questions / Comments during the workshop:
- Can the ring come out during sex?
- Can study product (e.g. gel, tablets or ring) cause harm to a partner should a condom break during sexual intercourse?
- Why does the ring and gel studies exclude men?

Male Involvement Workshop

- ❑ Positive feedback:
- ❑ After discussions, most male attendees recognised the importance of HIV prevention.
- ❑ They also recognised the need for clinical trials.
- ❑ They volunteered to refer women to the study clinic for participation.

Milestone Awards

- ❑ Aim: To show appreciation for study commitment to participants who have completed their month 9, 10, 11 and 12 visits
- ❑ Once every 3 months (2 – 3 hours per session)
- ❑ Most recent event: Spring theme, 2 participants selected to talk to speak to their peers about their experiences with study participation, 6 others volunteered to speak too, make up artist invited to conduct make up demonstration, study nurse demonstrated on how to bake bread.

Milestone Awards

- ❑ Awards: Gifts to the value of R25 were presented to participants, comprised of hand lotions and bath products. Value of milestone gifts were approved by the IRB.
- ❑ Other participants who were at the clinic for Screening and Follow-up visits were also happy about the event and requested a similar event when they reach M9 and beyond. They were encouraged to keep to their study visits, come to the clinic on time and always use the study product.

Milestone Awards



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Questions

