

Recent Adherence Strategies Kampala site

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Presentation outline

- ▶ Key recent adherence strategies
 - Mile stone events
 - DSMB Outcome dissemination sessions to ppts
- ▶ Other adherence strategies
 - DSMB Outcome dissemination to male partners, CAB & community contact persons
 - Close monitoring of suspected non-adherers
- ▶ Impact of recent strategies

Mile Stone Events

- ▶ Variation in participant engagement
- ▶ Groups of 25 to 50 ppts
- ▶ Fun based activities aimed at
 - promoting/ maintaining adherence
 - celebrating retention milestones
 - reducing staff & participant fatigue
 - strengthening rapport between staff & participants
 - forum for risk reduction and FP messages

Mile Stone Events cont'd

- ▶ Self help talk – economic empowerment, anger management
- ▶ Ice breakers
- ▶ Fun based adherence activities



Fun-based Adherence activities – varying themes

- ▶ Ppts & staff instructed to write or draw about a given topic




Fun-based Adherence activities cont'd

- ▶ Staff and participants encouraged to share

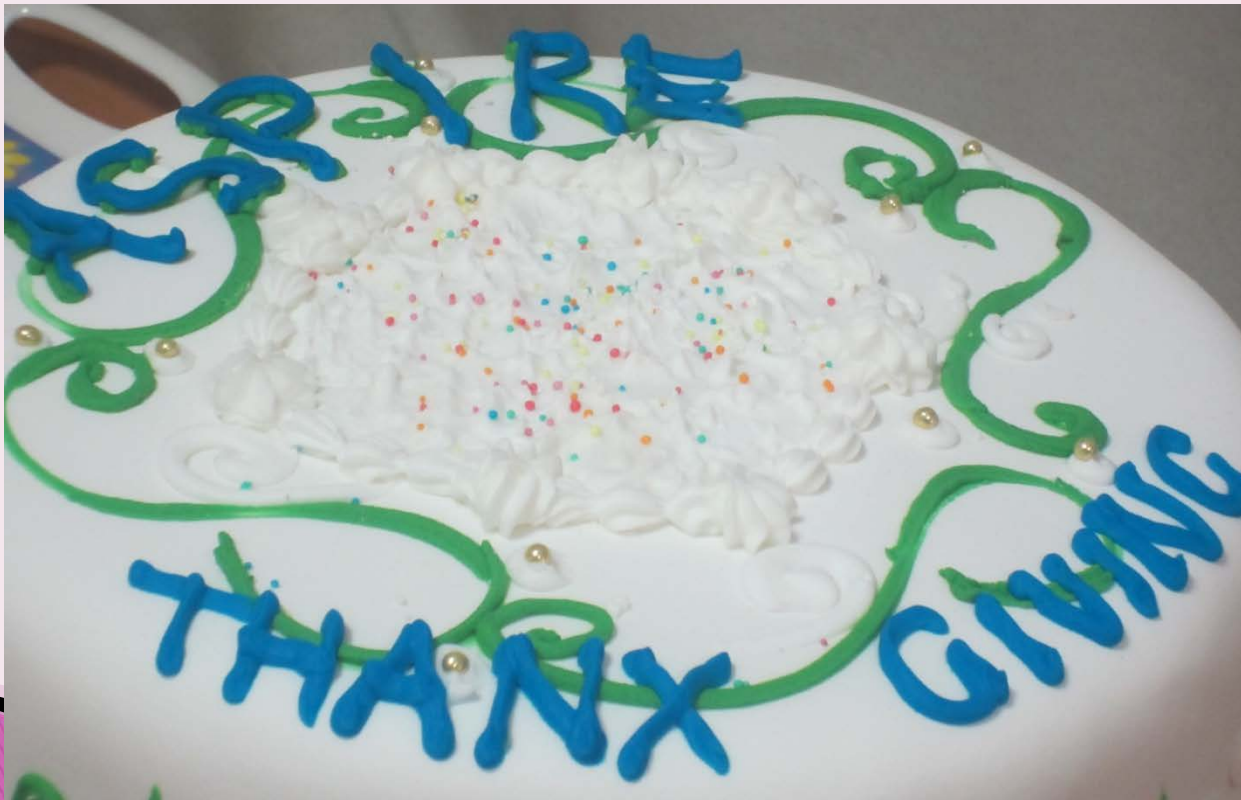


Missed opportunity activity

- ▶ PPTs & staff instructed to think of the biggest opportunity they have ever missed
- ▶ Most missed opportunities were around education due to early orphan hood (HIV) & teenage pregnancies – **tearful moments** 
- ▶ Facilitator points emphasizes that all is not lost as long as we are healthy and alive
- ▶ An effective HIV intervention can help us remain healthy
- ▶ Mentions the missed opportunity due to non-adherence in some previous PrEP studies
- ▶ Need to utilize opportunity of ASPIRE to demonstrate whether the ring works or not by adhering to study product

Thanks giving activity

- ▶ Celebration of recovery of ppt following a 7 year battle against misdiagnosed Chiari II Malformation associated with Syringomyelia



Testimonies from PLWA

- ▶ Coming to terms with the diagnosis
- ▶ Living with HIV pre-HAART
- ▶ Participation in research
- ▶ Life on HAART
- ▶ Importance of adherence



Mile Stone Events cont'd

Events are crowned up with

- ▶ Music & dancing
- ▶ Lunch & drinks
- ▶ Cutting of the cake



DSMB Outcome Dissemination– ppts

Session Objectives

- ▶ Study objectives
- ▶ Update of DSMB outcome & study time lines
- ▶ Appreciate ppts contribution to the study & emphasize our expectations in remaining part of the study – **retention & adherence**
- ▶ Share recent PK data
- ▶ HIV risk reduction messages



Participants' questions



“What next for participants after ASPIRE?”



“How will the ring reach the communities?”

Participants' suggestions



- ▶ Termination of non-adherers
- ▶ Some ppts remained behind & volunteered names of suspected non-adherers at the end of the session

Adherence re-enforcement message by CAB

- ▶ **“We as women can only achieve our dreams if we stay healthy & alive..... there is Hope”. “One year is not a long time, let’s fight to the end”.**
- ▶ **“It will be unfortunate if one got infected, only to be told at the end of the study that she was in active arm & had a chance of being protected if she had used the ring., she would not only have ruined her own chance but the chance for all other women who need a prevention method”.**

“No woman would love to die and leave their child (ren) behind, we can minimize this by finding an HIV prevention method...”



Other Adherence strategies

- ▶ Male involvement workshops including DSMB outcome dissemination
- ▶ DSMB outcome dissemination session to CAB
- ▶ DSMB outcome dissemination session to contact persons
- ▶ One-on-one close follow-up of suspected non-adherers

Impact of the recent strategies

- ▶ Higher turn over than regular workshops > 100% attendance
- ▶ Ppts who never turn up for regular workshop able to appreciate group adherence messages
- ▶ Complimentary feed back from participants, express sense of ownership
- ▶ Staff feel rejuvenated
- ▶ Other non-study related benefits to ppts – saving scheme

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Not connected to the ASPIRE study

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Thank you!