

National VMMC Programme

In 2010, the South African Department of Health (DoH) initiated the VMMC programme as a part of the country's HIV prevention strategy based on compelling evidence that VMMC reduces the female-to-male sexual transmission of HIV by 60%.

At present, VMMC service provision and demand creation are executed mostly by government-contracted implementing partners. But to ensure that demand creation is sustainable over time, the DoH is working to better integrate PHC and VMMC units at a facility level. This will enable you to play an active role in VMMC demand creation.

More than 4.4 million men have been medically circumcised in South Africa. But we still have a long way to go to improve our men's health and in effect, our entire country's health.

For more information, speak to your facility manager, or reach out to:
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Voluntary **M**edical **M**ale **C**ircumcision (**VMMC**)

has been shown to reduce the risk of female-to-male sexual transmission of HIV by 60%

Imagine what it can mean for our health system



VMMC REFERRALS

HEALTHCARE WORKER GUIDE



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The goal

VMMC is an integral part of HIV prevention. In order to ensure VMMC demand is consistent and sustainable, it is important that you as a health worker are involved in demand creation and referral activities.

Patients at PHC facilities already display health-seeking behaviour, trusting you as their healthcare worker to recommend what is best for them.

The below materials will assist you in starting a conversation about VMMC and then help to successfully refer men to make a booking and finally undergo the procedure.

Behavioural science studies human decision-making and behaviour.

These materials were designed using decision-making insights and should help you nudge men towards better health decisions.

Thank you for contributing to better health outcomes for the people of South Africa each day.

The process

1. Start a conversation

Conversation prompts on the desk are used to make starting a conversation about VMMC easy for both you and your patients. Make sure the prompt is salient on the desk and then use this as a reason to speak about VMMC. Follow the steps - if the patient seems eligible for VMMC, help them sign the commitment card.

2. Sign the commitment card

The intention-action gap refers to when individuals plan to do something but do not follow through with it. Signing a commitment helps to nudge men to follow through with VMMC. Explain the card to them, then let them fill in their name and sign. The procedure date will be filled out at reception.

3. Direct for booking

Frictional barriers refer to when individuals are put off from doing something due to seemingly small inconveniences, e.g. not knowing where to go. After signing the commitment card, point him to the floor guides which will lead him to the VMMC clinic.

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Hey there! Thanks for helping these patients today! Here's how to tell them about Medical Male Circumcision:

What to do:

- Tell him "It's great you're here looking after your health!"
- Explain VMMC health benefits
- Check eligibility here

Why circumcise?

- ✓ Choice-off
- ✓ Lowers risk of HIV, STI and cancer

CHECK ELIGIBILITY

- HIV status unknown? **Refer for testing or treatment, please**
- HIV+? **Refer for testing or treatment, please**
- Possible STI? **Refer for testing or treatment, please**
- Over 16 years old? **He's eligible!**
- Normal renal function? **Make sure he fits in the commitment card & knows where to go**
- Fit for surgery? **Make sure he fits in the commitment card & knows where to go**
- None of the above? **Refer patient for additional treatment**

2

COMMITMENT CARD

Want to lower your risk of getting HIV/AIDS, STIs and cancer?

Yes, I'm responsible → Book your circumcision at reception and keep this card as your booking reminder

No, I don't care

I will visit the clinic on: DD | MM | 20YY

My name is:

My signature:

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3

MMC clinic this way!

Medical Male Circumcision (MMC)

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Want to lower your risk for STIs?

Medical circumcision can protect you for life!

4.4 million men are proof it works - join them!

Quick & once-off | Free | Safe

Ask your nurse/doctor: **I want to know about medical circumcision. Can you tell me more?**

What you gain:

- Reduce your risk of HIV and STIs
- Improve your sexual performance
- Protect your partner from cervical cancer

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DOH APPROVED

THINGS YOU NEED TO DO:

- Book an appointment today; fill in booking date
- Take a half-day off work on the day of circumcision
- Eat breakfast on the day of the circumcision
- Come back to the clinic 2 days later for a check-up

Don't miss out on the BENEFITS of VMMC

- ✓ Safe
- ✓ Free
- ✓ Lowers risk of HIV, STIs and partner cervical cancer
- ✓ Improves sexual performance
- ✓ Quick
- ✓ Once-off

Day 1-3 post-operative pain scale

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

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We care about men's health. Ask about MMC.

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