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Assessment of sex-related behaviours, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) knowledge and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) among men of reproductive age in Cameroon

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Sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), are among the major public health challenges in Cameroon. This paper determined the effect of men's sex-related behaviors and HIV knowledge on reported STIs. The data came from the 2012 Cameroon's Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) that were collected from 7191 respondents in 2012. Descriptive and logistic regression methods were used for data analysis. Results showed that majority of the respondents were aware of STIs and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), while 3.96% reported STIs. Also, 49.45% of the men had no wife, while 75.58% and 84.58% noted that condoms and keeping of one partner could be used to prevent HIV transmission, respectively. Wrong impressions that mosquito bites and sharing of food could lead to HIV infection were held by 31.94% and 12.44% of the men, respectively. Among those that reported STIs, 33.33%, 30.18% and 13.33% respectively used condom during sex with most recent partner, second to most recent partner and third to most recent partner, compared to 24.69%, 15.04% and 4.17% among those that did not report STIs. Logistic regression results showed that

probability of STI increased significantly ($p < 0.05$) with condom use with third most recent partners, being married, wrong knowledge that mosquito bites cause HIV and being away for more than one month, while it significantly reduced ($p < 0.05$) with number of children, knowledge that having one partner prevents STIs. It was concluded that policy initiatives and programmes to enhance right sexual knowledge and behavior among men would go a long way in reducing STI incidence in Cameroon.

Speaker Biography

Divine Ngakokibang Nsangan is the Community Outreach Coordinator for Presbyterian General Hospital Kumba, Southwest Region, Cameroon, where he covers projects and Workshops Regional wide. He holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in Biochemistry from the University of Buea in the Southwest Region. Divine Ngakokibang Nsangan is a registered professional Outreach Coordinator in 5 Divisions in the Southwest Region and has more than 5 years 8 months of experience in Outreach Coordinating and project management. He is a trustee of the Presbyterian Church in Cameroon and former co-chair the HIV/AIDS Sensitization Project of the Presbyterian General Hospital (2013-2015). He is also a member of the Solidarity Health Foundation and past chair of the sensitization of people living with AIDS committee (2015-2016).

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