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# Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting (MER) Guidance (v.2.6): Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC)

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# Video Outline

- 1) **Section 1:** Overview of the technical area and related indicators
- 2) **Section 2:** Indicator changes in MER 2.6
- 3) **Section 3:** Review of numerator, denominator, and disaggregates.
  - What is the programmatic justification and intention for collecting VMMC data?
  - How are program managers expected to use this data to make decisions that will improve PEPFAR programming?
  - How does it all come together? How should the data be visualized (e.g., cascades)? How do these indicators relate to other MER indicators?
- 4) **Section 4:** Overview of guiding narrative questions
- 5) **Section 5:** Data quality considerations for reporting and analysis
- 6) **Section 6:** Additional resources and acknowledgments

# Section 1: Overview of the technical area and related indicators

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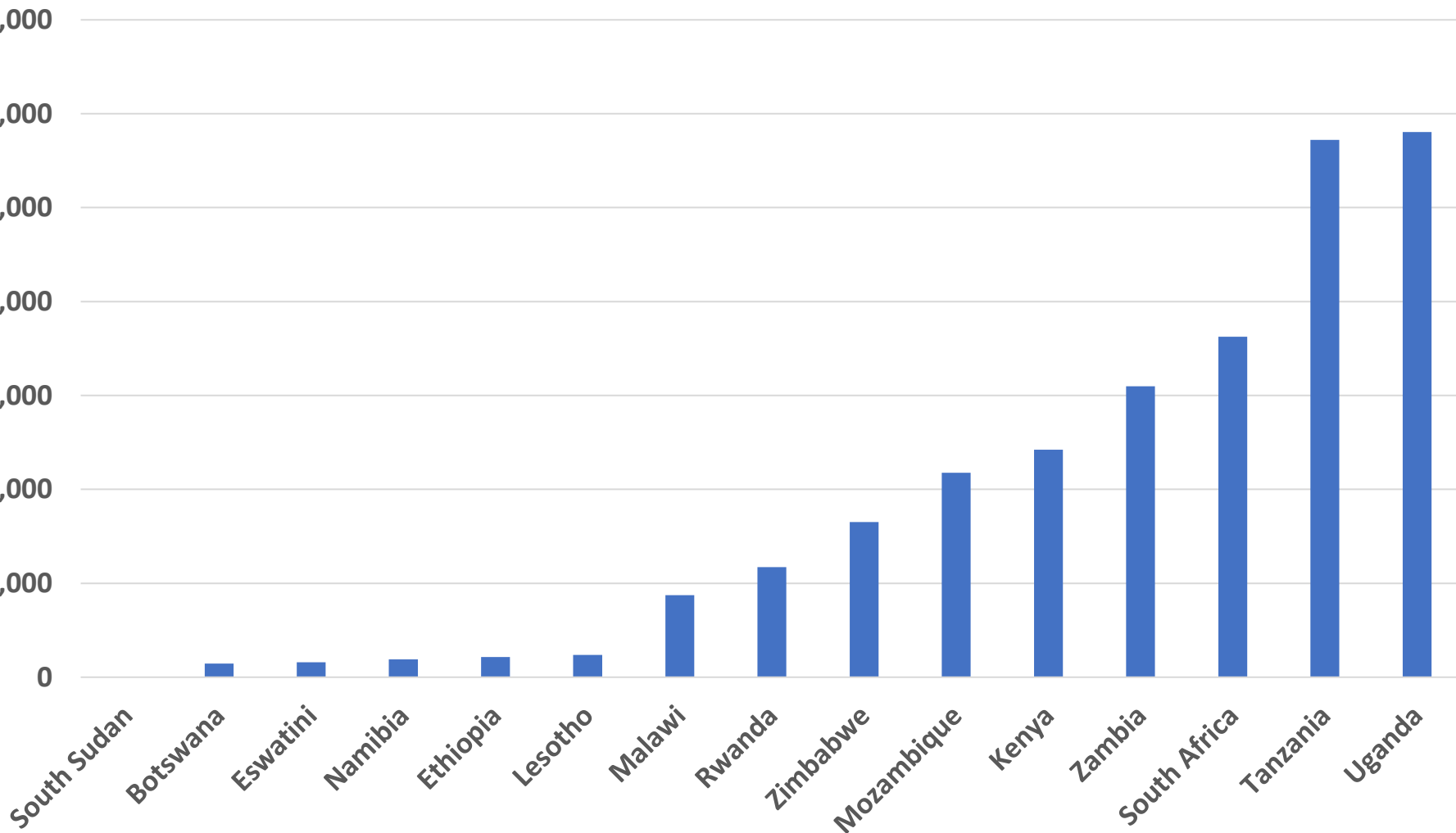
# Overview of VMMC

## What is VMMC?

- VMMC is the **removal of all or part of the foreskin** of the penis (the fold of skin that covers the head of penis when it is not erect).
- PEPFAR-supported VMMCs may be done **surgically or using a Shang Ring device**.
- Observational studies and randomized trials demonstrated **60% reduction in risk of heterosexual HIV acquisition with VMMC**; benefit continues lifelong. Downstream benefits for women.
- Non-medical ritual circumcisions, especially those done in adolescence, do not confer same level of protection.
- PEPFAR conducts VMMCs in **15 countries**: Botswana, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

# 27M PEPFAR-Supported VMMC's since 2007

Cumulative PEPFAR-Supported VMMCs, FY07-FY21 Q3

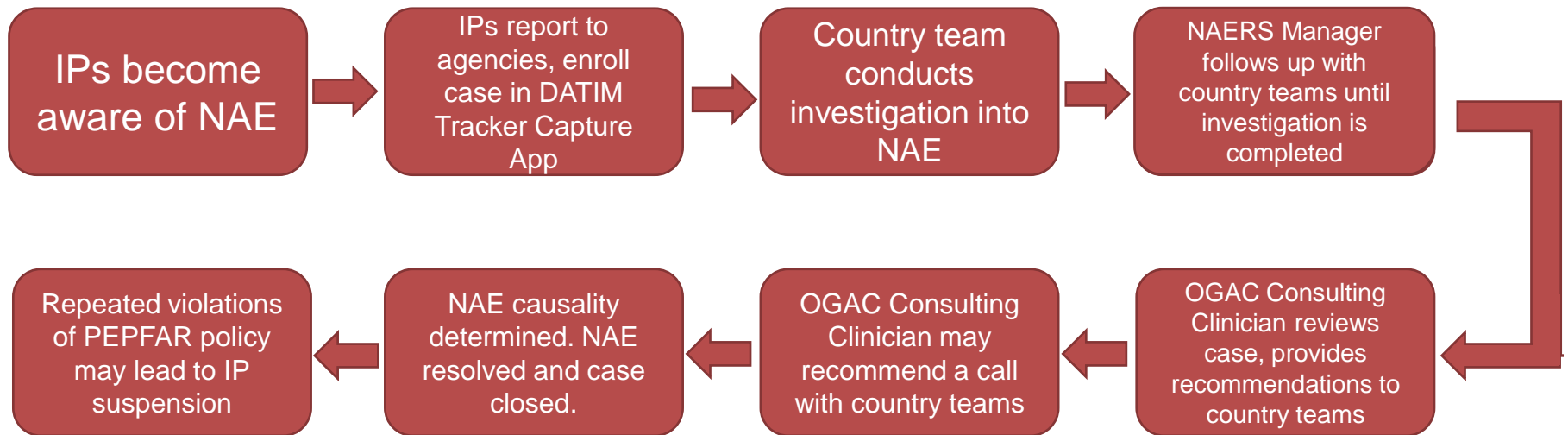


# What data do we collect?

- PEPFAR collects data on: **Number of Circumcisions (VMMC\_CIRC)**; disaggregated by **Age, HIV Testing, Technique, Follow-Up**
- **VMMC\_CIRC is a simple count** of how many males were circumcised each quarter. Data is collected by fine 5-year age bands.
  - As of COP20, no surgical **VMMCs for boys <15 are supported by PEPFAR. ShangRing allowed in boys ages 13-14 with HQ (Country Chair) approval.**
  - **No infant circumcisions** are supported.
- **HIV status in those receiving VMMC services:**
  - Number HIV-positive, negative, or unknown
  - Given low prevalence of HIV among VMMC clients, only test appropriate clients based on risk behaviors and factors. HIV risk screening is encouraged.
  - HTS before VMMC is optional but should be offered; clients who opt out should be given alternative options (other places/methods) for later testing.
- **VMMC technique and follow-up rates:**
  - Technique can be surgical or device-based (ShangRing).
  - **Follow-up with the client should occur within 14 days (ideally at 2 and 7 days)** of surgery or device placement.
  - Low follow-up rates may indicate issues with program quality.

# Notifiable Adverse Events Reporting System

- Although VMMC is a safe procedure, adverse events (AEs) can and do occur. OGAC tracks the most severe AEs through the **Notifiable Adverse Events Reporting System (NAERS)**.
- To report an NAE, access the Tracker Capture App in DATIM. Questions can be sent to the NAERS Manager at [VMMC\\_AE@state.gov](mailto:VMMC_AE@state.gov).
- **All OUs performing VMMC activities are required to report into the NAERS.**



- **PEPFAR VMMC violations** include using forceps-guided method on boys under 15 years and VMMC without informed consent.

# Section 2: Indicator changes in MER 2.6





# What's changed?

There are no indicator changes from MER 2.5 to MER 2.6!

# Section 3: Review of numerator, denominator, and disaggregates

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# Overview of Technical Area and Indicators

- VMMC\_CIRC tracks the **number of male circumcisions conducted** and assists in determining coverage of circumcision in the population over time.
- **Total number of males circumcised indicates a change in the supply of and/or demand for VMMC services.** Disaggregates for prioritized services evaluate success at reaching intended population, targets, and modeling inputs.
- **Additional disaggregation required for follow-up status** to assess program quality.

Program Area Group	Indicator Code	Indicator Name	Reporting Frequency	Reporting Level
Prevention	VMMC_CIRC	Number of males circumcised as part of the voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) for HIV prevention program within the reporting period	Quarterly	Facility

# Overview of Technical Area and Indicators

- **VMMC\_CIRC numerator** disaggregates:
  - **Age:** 0-60 days, 2 months-1 year, 1-4, 5-9, 10-14, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50+, Unknown Age
  - **Testing Result:**
    - HIV-positive at VMMC site
    - HIV-negative at VMMC site
    - Indeterminate HIV status or not tested for HIV at site (regardless of previous documentation)
  - **Circumcision Technique:** Surgical, device-based
  - **Circumcision Technique/Follow-up Status:**
    - Surgical: Followed up within 14 days of surgery
    - Surgical: Did not follow up within 14 days of surgery or did not follow up within the reporting period
    - Device-based: Followed up within 14 days of device placement
    - Device-based: Did not follow up within 14 days of device placement or did not follow up within the reporting period
- **Denominator** disaggregates: N/A

# How to Count VMMC\_CIRC

- **Data Sources:** VMMC register, or client medical records maintained by each program/site/service provider
- **Calculation Method:** Numerator generated by counting the number of males circumcised as part of the VMMC for HIV prevention program.
- **Standard definition of DSD and TA-SDI used.**

# Calculated Indicators Related to VMMC\_CIRC

- **HTS\_TST**

- Data from VMMC\_CIRC auto-populates to HTS\_TST VMMC modality.

**HTS\_TST VMMC testing modality:** The number of VMMC clients who were tested for HIV at a VMMC site and received results

**Calculation:**

Copied from VMMC\_CIRC positive and negative clients

**Example:**

HTS\_TST VMMC Male 15-19 Positive =  
VMMC\_CIRC Male 15-19 HIV positive clients

# Auto-Populated Modalities

**DSD: PMTCT\_STAT (Numerator)** - Collapse

**Auto-Calculate** Number of pregnant women with known HIV status at first antenatal care visit (ANC1) (includes those who already knew their HIV status prior to ANC1). Numerator will auto-calculate from the Status and Age Disaggregates.

Numerator

**Required** Disaggregated by Status and Age

Unknown	<10	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50+	
Known Positives:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Subtotal
Newly Tested Positives:	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="2"/>	<input type="text" value="3"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="6"/>
New Negatives:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Subtotal
Recent Negatives:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Subtotal
<b>Sub-total</b>											<input type="text" value="6"/>

- HTS\_TST modalities auto-populate into the HTS\_TST indicator:
  - Index (Community and Facility)
  - PMTCT (ANC-1 only)
  - TB
  - VMMC
- IPs should **only enter data once** under the modality.

**DSD: HTS\_TST (Facility) - PITC Modality: PMTCT (ANC1 Only)** - Collapse

**Auto-Calculate** Number of pregnant women with known HIV status at first antenatal care visit (ANC1) (includes those who already knew their HIV status prior to ANC1). This data will auto-calculate from PMTCT\_STAT.

New Positives

New Negatives

Sub-Total

**PMTCT\_STAT auto-populates into HTS\_TST**

# Section 4: Overview of guiding narrative questions

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# Guiding Narrative Questions: VMMC\_CIRC

1. Is the age distribution of males 60% or more 15+ years of age?
  - Is this age distribution getting older as compared to previous quarters?
2. If OU is using compression collar type device for VMMC
  - Are they adhering to WHO Guidelines for tetanus immunization?
  - Were there any tetanus AEs reported?
3. What proportion of clients are returning for follow-up (should be at least 80%)?
4. What barriers are there to further scaling up VMMC services?

# Section 5: Data quality considerations for reporting and analysis

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# Data Quality Considerations: VMMC\_CIRC

- **How to review for data quality:**
  - Disaggregates for HIV status and outcome and circumcision technique should be equal to (but not exceed) the numerator.
  - The circumcision technique by follow-up status disaggregate should be less than or equal to the circumcision technique disaggregate.

# Section 6: Additional Resources and Acknowledgments

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# Acknowledgments

- Thank you to Amber Prainito, Valerian Kiggundu, Michelle Selim, Paige Schoenberg, and Pooja Vinayak for their assistance coordinating MER updates.



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# Thank you!