

# Male Circumcision in Swaziland: Demographics, Behaviors and HIV Prevalence

## *Findings from the Swaziland HIV Incidence Measurement Survey (SHIMS)*

Abstract# MOPDE0105

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**Shims**  
Swaziland HIV Incidence  
Measurement Survey



"A DROP THAT COUNTS ...  
..the number of new HIV infections"

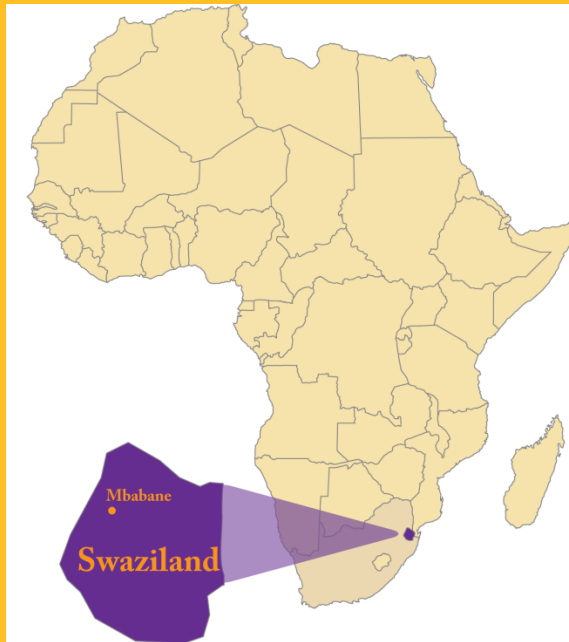



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# The Kingdom of Swaziland



- Highest HIV prevalence: 26% ('07 DHS)
- Male circumcision uncommon  
8% of men, age 15-49 ('07 DHS)
- HIV prevention campaign  
launched 2011 to curb epidemic  
-expanded VMMC and ART
- HIV incidence measurements  
needed to demonstrate and  
quantify impact  SHIMS

# Swaziland HIV Incidence Measurement Survey (SHIMS): Methods

- Survey

Nationally-representative, household-based sample of men and women, age 18-49y, completed HIV testing and face-to-face questionnaire about demographics, behaviors and self-reported circumcision status (men)

- Current analysis

Compare demographics, health/risk behaviors, beliefs about VMMC benefits, and HIV prevalence among circumcised and uncircumcised men

# Results

- 7,121 men in survey, 97% gave circumcision status
- 16% Swazi men circumcised, at mean age 20.7 y
- Sexual health/risk behaviors:
  - Consistent condom use (uncirc *vs* circ: 31% *vs* 36%, NS)
  - Mean # sex partners (uncirc *vs* circ: 1.4 *vs* 1.3)
- HIV prevalence:  
uncirc men (25%) *vs* circ men (16%),  $p < 0.001$
- Believe VMMC is protective against HIV:  
uncircumcised men (76%) *vs* circ men (85%)

# Conclusions

- Male circumcision prevalence doubled from 8% (2007) to 16% (2011)
- The majority of Swazi men remain uncircumcised, though most are aware of the HIV protective benefits
- In light of low VMMC uptake and wide knowledge of the benefits, facilitators and barriers should be addressed to increase coverage

# It Takes a Village:

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