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## Perceptions and practices of family physicians in Mayo Clinic Florida regarding the initiation of discussion and giving of advice to patients on safe sex practices

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The reported increase of cases of sexually-transmitted infections (STD) in the USA is fast becoming a health challenge in the country (CDC, 2016). Family physicians can play an important role in preventing new cases of STD in their patients by initiating discussion and advising patients on safe sex practices during sexual health and non-sexual health consultations. A number of barriers may prevent a family physician from initiating discussion and advising patients on safe sex practices. The purpose of this study is to identify the reasons felt by family physicians to be the hindrance to their initiating discussion and advising of patients on safe sex practices. A questionnaire will be given to 51 Mayo Clinic-Florida family physicians and resident family physicians to access their views and perceived hindrance to initiating discussion and advising patients on safe sex practices. The data collected will be analyze to identify the perceptions of Mayo Clinic-Florida family physicians and why they may not initiate discussion and give advice to patients on safe sex practices. With the study, it is hoped that improved knowledge of the perceptions and practices of family physicians in Mayo Clinic-Florida regarding the initiation of discussion and giving of advice to patients on safe sex practices will arise. The knowledge may, in turn, contribute to better patient care, as the Continuing Medical Education (CME) or Clinical Training Program of family physicians may be adjusted to better prepare family physicians to initiate discussion and give advice to patients on safe sex practices.

### Biography

Isaac Iniabasi Effiong is a Research Trainee at Family Medicine Department of Mayo Clinic in Florida. He has graduated with distinction in MPH program from the University of West Florida (UWF) and is certified as a Public Health Practitioner. He is presently studying for the UWF Graduate Certificate in Health Informatics. He has completed his Medical Education and did Graduate Residency Training in Obstetrics/Gynecology at the University of Calabar. His research areas of interests are in public health and reproductive health/sexual health including HIV/AIDS and STD. He has published a research article on male infertility and presented 2 posters on reproductive health research.

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