

Perceptions, Attitudes Beliefs among Male Grade 12 Pupils at Chifubu Secondary School in Ndola towards Male Circumcision

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Description

Male circumcision is one of the oldest and most common surgical procedures worldwide, and is undertaken for many reasons: religious, cultural, social and medical. It is practiced culturally in Zambia by a few societies; particularly those from Northwestern Province and parts of Western province the Luvale, Lunda, Mbunda, Luchazi etc. The practice is also conducted by Muslim societies throughout the country. In these societies, the practice has been seen as a traditional rite of passage of boys to manhood for centuries. Scientists have indicated that Male Circumcision has the ability to reduce the risk of getting the HIV virus through the exposed hardened glands during the act of sex by 60%. Other benefits of Male Circumcision include the sexual female partner being safe from the risk of getting cervical cancer throughout hygienically glands that can't hold the HPV that leads to cancer. To evaluate the current status of perceptions, attitudes and beliefs among male grade 12 pupils at chifubu secondary school in Ndola towards male circumcision and bring forth recommendations based on the findings of the study.

The study was a cross-sectional study and targeted male grade 12 pupils. Self-administered Questionnaires were used to collect data.

The study also reviewed what other studies have found on the topic in other regions of Africa and a few from outside Africa then compared them to our findings. Findings reveal that 82.8% of the participants had positive perceptions of male circumcision. Only 17.2% had negative perception. Family, friends 66.4% were cited as the main source of information. Seventy eight point one percent (78.1%) of the participants had positive attitude towards MC. Furthermore, participants had different beliefs about MC with 84.4% stating that they believe MC is beneficial to them. Although participants showed positive perceptions and attitude towards MC, the number that expressed negative perceptions and attitude is still significant and would indicate a great call for more intensified sensitization programs to address and improve the knowledge and with that, belief of MC.

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