

District-wide, door-to-door, home-based  
HIV voluntary counselling and testing in  
Bushenyi

**Other Post Test Services and Positive  
Prevention**

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# Background

- The entry point for HIV care, support and prevention is VCT
- In response to the HIV epidemic ICOBI with support from CDC and PSI commenced on the provision of other Post-test services and positive prevention interventions .
- Other Post test services include; supporting initiation of Post Test Clubs (PTCs)& supportive follow -up counseling.
- Positive prevention interventions include;
  - Partner/couple HIV counseling and testing
  - Supported disclosure
  - Risk reduction measures
  - STI screening and management
  - Family planning
  - PMTCT

# Objectives

- To reduce the risk of HIV infection in the community through positive prevention interventions.
- To support identified discordant couples.
- To help HIV+ clients in setting realistic goals for their positive living practices.
- To empower the community with knowledge and skills for home based HIV/AIDS care & support for people living with HIV/AIDS (PHAs).

# Activities

- Initiating and supporting Post Test Clubs.
- Providing ongoing supportive client follow-ups.
- Community mobilization and sensitization on basic care usage through drama performances, client supportive follow-ups, peer education, and radio talk shows.
- Training of Resident Parish Mobilizers (RPMs) and Peer-Educators in basic care with support from PSI.
- Referrals other support and care services.

# Methods

- Positive Prevention Officers, Resident Parish Mobilizers, and Peer educators give follow up support to people living with HIV/AIDS especially discordant couples.
- HIV + are encouraged to join Post-Test clubs and other support groups initiated in their communities.
- Net working with other HIV/AIDS care and support service providers.

# Achievements

- 300 (80%) discordant couples followed-up.
- Promotion of HIV prevention interventions like disclosure, risk reduction measures.
- 81 Post test-clubs established at parish levels
- 43 PTCs provided with IGAs and nutrition support.
- 40 peer educators trained, 28 facilitated with bicycles, and 16,921 reached.
- Capacity building of RPMs and peer educators through trainings and regular review meetings .

# Lessons learnt

- Supportive counseling promotes disclosure and access to care & support services .
- Collaboration with other service providers is essential for program success.
- Post test clubs help in strengthening family and community support systems.
- Use of community own resource persons promotes service utilization.
- Home based HIV care for people living with HIV+ offers hope and confidence to PHAs and their families.

# Challenges

- Socio-economic, cultural, gender, and religious affiliation.
- Misconceptions about discordance .
- Disclosure among partners tested as individuals.
- Sustaining condom use among discordant couples

# Challenges cont'd.

- Desire for children among HIV positives.
- Care for orphans including some who are living with HIV/AIDS.
- Lack of adequate care and support services for people living with HIV/AIDS.

# Way forward

- Continue with client supportive follow-ups.
- Scaling up care and support to reach all HIV positive people and their families.
- Increasing prevention with positives initiatives.
- Building capacities of community own resource persons and community based support groups for ongoing supportive follow-up counseling.
- Funding for Post-test clubs and support groups.

# Prevention with Positives Co-ordinator during one of the client supportive follow-up visits, Nov 2005



# Post test club members at one of the drama performances



THANK YOU