18 month Impact Evaluation of School- and Community-based Initiatives to Reduce Youth Vulnerability to HIV Infection in Edo State, Nigeria

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Background Literature

- Syntheses & meta-analyses show school programmes can have significant but small impact on reducing student risk of HIV infection
- Changing sexual behaviours is especially difficult if they are embedded in community beliefs, structures, and social systems that support existing behaviours.

Evaluation Questions

 Can FLHE produce desirable changes in student knowledge, attitudes and sexual behaviours related to HIV-risk?

 Is there a stronger change for students who have FLHE in their schools AND live in communities that have programmes to build their community's AIDS Competence?

Research Design

Cluster Randomized Control Design

10 LGAs
in 3 Sen
Dis

1 FLHE + Community
1 FLHE
1 Delayed FLHE

30 Junior Secondary Schools & communities

Data collection	Pre- 2008		1st post - 2010		2nd post -2011	
FLHE+C	✓	Train	✓	C C	✓	
		T +C				
FLHE	✓	Train T	✓		✓	
Delay	✓		✓		✓	Train T

Surveys, Focus Group Discussions, In-depth Interviews & Brief Ethnographies

Basis of Presentation

- Pre and 18 months post surveys (2nd post)
 with all students in participating schools
- Comparison of learners in DELAY, FLHE, and FLHE+C schools using all students who completed surveys (N=14,802)

Sample Characteristics

Students

Males: 55%

Females: 45%

• JSS 1: 33%

JSS 2: 33%

JSS 3: 33%

Senatorial Districts

North: 38%

Central: 30%

South: 32%

Schools

Mean # of students

wave 1: 188.6

wave 3: 290.0

Student/Teacher Ratio

wave 1: 35.0

wave 3: 54.9

School Resourcing

some books for students: 63%

desks at least for sharing: 65%

pit toilet: 33%

Summary Results of Logistics & OLS Regressions

Statistically significant (p < .05) desirable effect in at least one grade level with direction of effect in other grades in the same direction

	M	MALES		MALES
OUTCOME	FLHE	FLHE+C	FLHE	FLHE+C
Students aware of programme in school		X		
Talk to teachers/PE about HIV/AIDS		X		
Factual knowledge				
Reject myths		X	Χ	X
Attitude supporting abstinence:		X		
I wouldn't have sex even if liked someone				
Attitudes supporting condom use		Χ		X
Have engaged in sexual intercourse			Χ	Χ
Sexual intercourse in past 3 months	Χ			
Ever used a condom				
Someone with HIV: Should go to school		Х		
I can sit next to them		Χ	Χ	X

Additional Results

- Better results in higher grades
- More desirable results for FLHE+C (11/22) than FLHE (4/22), especially for males(7/11 FLHE+C vs 1/11 FLHE)
- More desirable results for males (8/11) than females (4/11)
- FLHE+C increased acceptance of infected students.

Conclusions

- FLHE delivered in JSS produces desirable changes in knowledge, attitudes and behaviours associated with HIV risk.
- This is especially the case for girls.
- When a community programme to raise AIDS Competence is added, there are more and stronger results, especially for boys.
- Although acceptance of condoms improves with FLHE+C, condom use does not.

Policy Recommendations

Continue expanding delivery of the FLHE programme in JSS in Nigeria.

 Mobilize towards delivery of programming in communities using the AIDS Competent Community model.