



THE STUDY CLINIC

- Located within Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital (QECH) premises –ANC building
- QECH - Central Blantyre, off the main road
- Easily accessible by road or foot
- Participants recruited from Blantyre townships
- Public hospital, free health care
- HIV care clinics by the Medicine Department
- Counseling services within the hospital and outside the hospital eg NAPHAM, ECOCA .

POTENTIAL PARTICIPANTS

- Urban/peri-urban dwellers
- Housewives, small proportion involved in own income generating activities-\$2/month
- Junior primary school level-spell/write own name (~25% illiterate-DHSS urban women 84% literate)

RECRUITMENT OF HIGH RISK WOMEN

- Prior recruitment efforts reasonable-STI clinic, colleges-community educators
- Major challenges assoc with identification of high risk women (if any)-college students—very mobile, privacy
- Community research knowledge/rationale
- Future trials—targeting of “social gatherings”, educating the community about research-use media more

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Community advocacy groups in target population-”Friends of the College of Medicine-Johns Hopkins Project”
- Levels of community engagement so far at site-CAB, media contacts
- Successes & challenges with engagement process -Ability to identify and deal with problems as they surface, degree of participation

RETENTION I

- Farming Activities-preparing land, planting, weeding, harvesting—women temporarily relocate to home villages
- Uninterested male partner
- Misinformation about nature of studies-

RETENTION II

- IMPROVED by:
 - reimbursement of travel expenses
 - enlisting support of previous participants
 - detailed home village map

PRODUCT ADHERENCE

- Power balance in relationship
- ADDRESSED BY :
 - Intense counseling
 - Partner involvement
 - Addressing participants concerns

