# Barriers and Facilitators to Adherence: Preliminary findings from VOICE C

Co-Chairs: Jonathan Stadler & Ariane van der Straten

MTN Regional Meeting

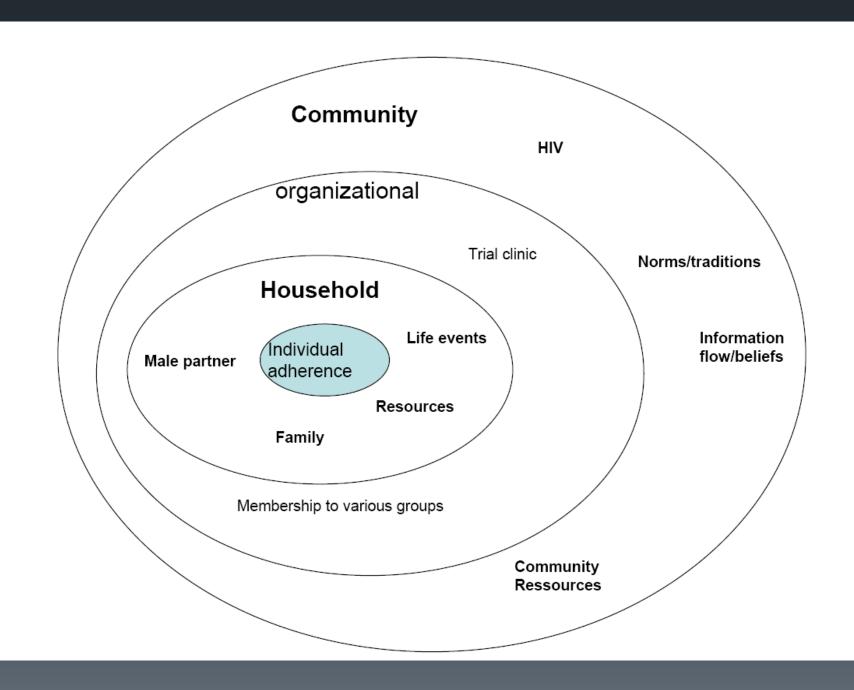
12th October 2011





#### Overview

- The conceptual model of VOICE C
- Status update
- Study population characteristics
- Accounting for adherence
- Comparison between GEL and TABLET
- Everyday life in a clinical trial



Group	Target #	Screened	Enroll. visit pending (FGD)	Enrolled *	# and Interview mode	Completed study
Group 1 (enrolled women)	150	129	85	44	25 IDIs 19 Els	25
Group 2 (male partners)	60	10	NA	7	7 IDIs	7
Group 3 (CAB)	15	10	NA	9	2 FGDs	0
Group 4 (Stakehold ers)	50	30	NA	22	2 FGDs	19
Total	275	179	85	82	-	51

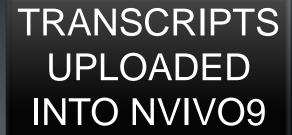
INTERVIEW OR FGD





INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL QC AND REVIEW

CODING NVIVO9



REPORTS
UPLOADED
INTO MS
ACESS

# Characteristics of IDI sample

IDIs N=22

N = 29

- Mean age26.2
- High school79%
- Employed95%

Topic	Gel (N=8)	Tablets (N14)	
Acceptable	75%	64%	
Non-use	25%	36%	
Preference	Gel 63% Tablet 38%	Gel 43% Tablet 43% Equal 14%	

#### Whose adherence is it?

IDI112 ran out of the tablets because she did not have time to come to the VOICE clinic for her visit.

IDI115 missed one month ... she said she isn't fully responsible for her poor adherence in the last month because she confused the date for her study visit

# Adherence is a grey zone...

IDI 108 reported being adherent ... but, one night she was tired and fell asleep on the toilet at work and only woke up 30 minutes after ten o clock to take her tablets. She forgets to take her tablet when visiting her boyfriend.

# Accounting for 'non-adherence': **Tablets**

El109 did not want to mix the study tablets with headache pills IDI109 **forgot** because she was busy at work.

IDI110 was experiencing side effects ...

El106 thinks the tablets have reduced her sex drive

#### Accounting for 'non adherence': Gel

IDI113 forgets to insert the gel in the morning ... the cell phone alarm does not work for her

El 101 returned from work feeling tired, fell asleep and did not hear when the alarm rang, and did not use the gel

#### Product Preferences

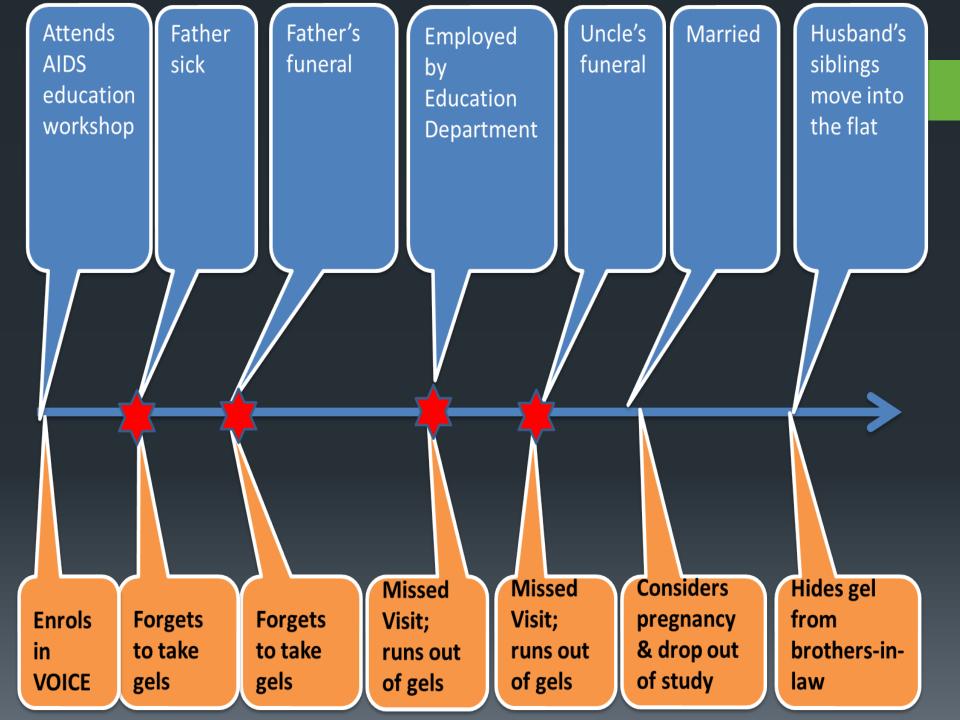
IDI 110 is on tablet arm in VOICE and has experience of gel in MDP 301; although the gel has no side effects she prefers tablets because it is more potent - weight increase, healthy appearance

IDI 114 prefers the gel because the tablets are too big; IDI 117 agrees – the tablets make urine smell

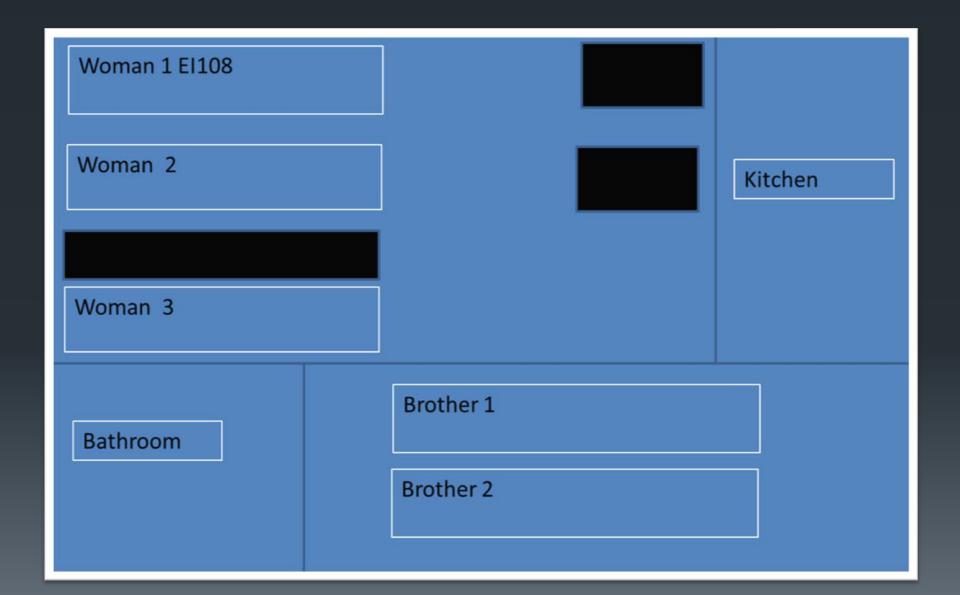
### Getting used to the study products

El 102 said the tablet caused headaches, dizziness; tiredness; loss of appetite and excessive vaginal discharge. She said she is fine now and thinks her body is used to the tablets

In the first two months of using the gel, IDI 117 felt bloated after inserting the gel. She no longer feels bloated because she thinks her body has adapted to the gel



# Space, privacy, secrecy



# Partner support

IDI201 is worried that the tablets cause HIV because they contain ARV ... suggests that she may be cheating on him El102 told her partner the tablets were contraceptives.



# Community Discourses

'ARVs are for people with AIDS'



# Some trends ...



# Thank you

- Site Manager: Sello Seoka
  - Researchers: Florence Mathebula Busi Magazi
- The VOICE C Protocol Team