

# HIV prevention trials

## Tackling choice disability and structural factors to reduce HIV

### Choice disability and HIV

Most HIV prevention efforts rely on people being able to choose to reduce their HIV risk; yet many people are not able to.

Choice disability factors include:

- Experience of gender violence
- Steep power gradients as in transactional and trans-generational sex
- Poverty
- Lack of education
- Partner income and educational disparity.

Many young women in southern Africa are choice disabled, contributing to their higher risk of HIV.

Choice disability factors increase HIV risk cumulatively.



Young women discussing an episode of the audio-drama

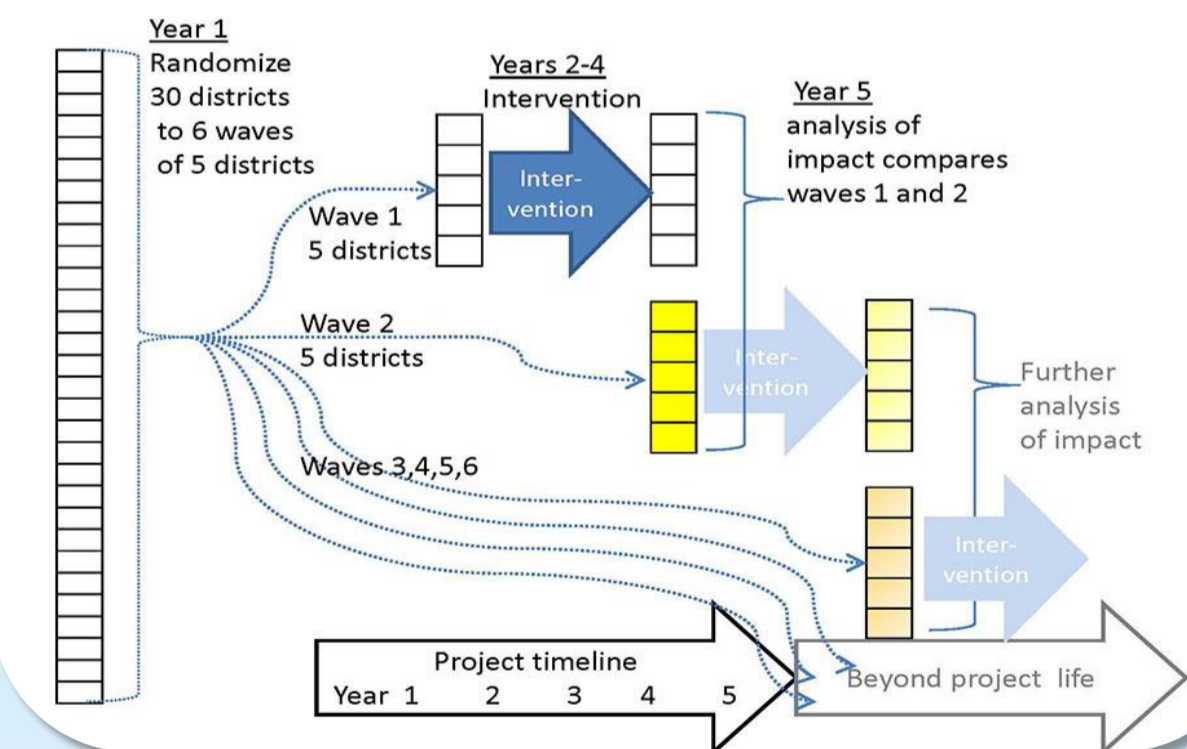
### INSTRUCT

- *Inter-ministerial national structural HIV prevention trial* in Botswana, 2013-2018
- Three interventions of choice disability trial plus refocusing of government structural support programmes towards young women
- Pipeline planning: cluster randomized controlled trial in stepped-wedge design
- Will measure impact on HIV in youth in intervention *districts* compared with controls.

### Choice disability trial

- Cluster randomised controlled trial in 77 communities in Botswana, Namibia and Swaziland, 2008-2013
- Three interventions in a factorial design
  - Discussing choice disability with services
  - Educational audiodrama on gender violence and HIV for all age and sex groups
  - Empowering groups of young women
- Measured impact on HIV infection in women 15-29 living in the communities.

### Schematic representation of INSTRUCT

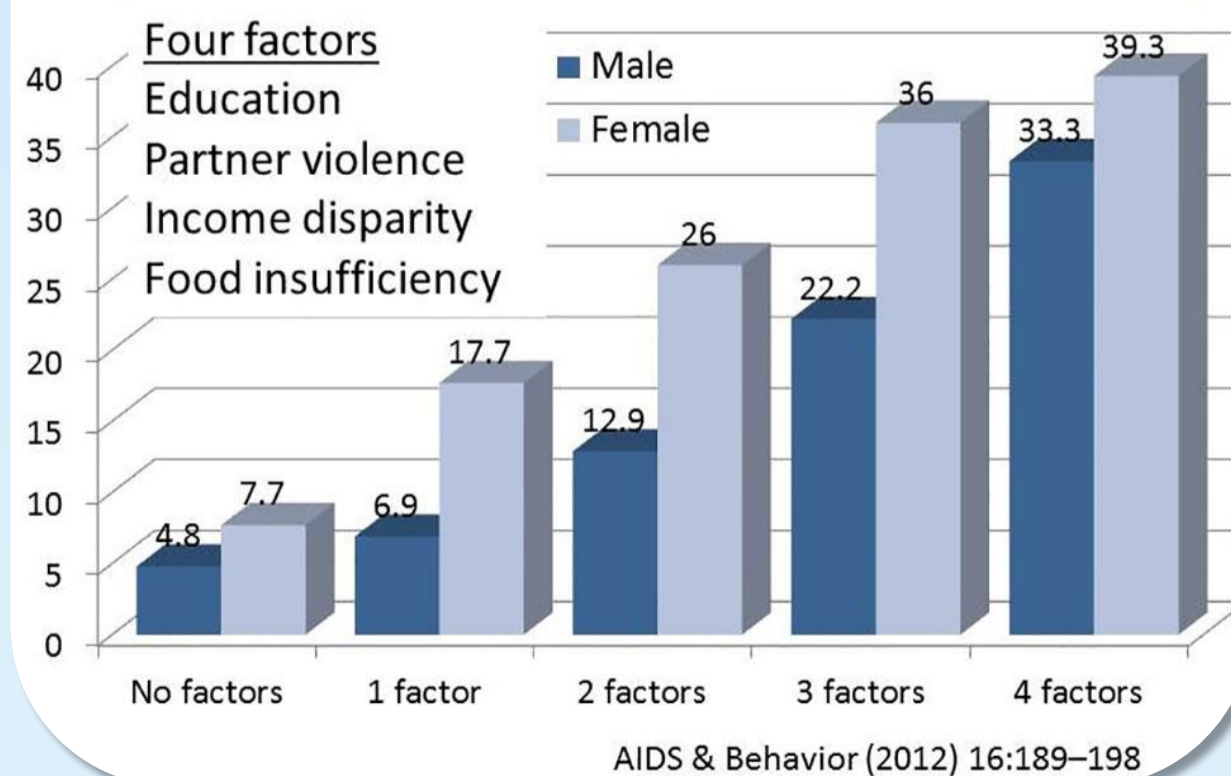


The INSTRUCT stepped-wedge design

### For more information:

AIDS Research and Therapy 2006, 3:23  
 AIDS & Behav 2012, 16: 189-198  
<http://hiv.cietresearch.org>  
<http://instruct.cietresearch.org>

What is different about HIV+ 15-29 year-olds?  
 7464 people in Botswana, Namibia, Swaziland 2008



Choice disability factors and HIV prevalence



Participatory Research at McGill

**CIET** Building the community voice into planning