

ABSTRACT

Background

The study investigated the factors influencing the uptake of safe male circumcision in Nsambya village. The specific objectives of the study were; 1) to determine the proportion of circumcised men in Nsambya village, 2) to determine the sociodemographic factors that influence the uptake of safe male circumcision in Nsambya village, 3) to identify the socioeconomic factors influencing the uptake of safe male circumcision in Nsambya village, and 4) to determine the attitude of males in Nsambya village towards the uptake of medical male circumcision.

Methodology

A cross-sectional study was carried out in Nsambya village on mentally sound males aged 18 years and above, both the circumcised and uncircumcised. The questionnaires were pretested among 10 males aged from 18 years and above for validity and reliability before data collection started. A total of 203 respondents were then sampled using systematic sampling whereby every 3rd house hold was sampled. For univariate analysis, data was run using frequencies and percentages, and the results presented in form of frequency tables, pictographs, and bar graphs. At bivariate level, Chi square tests were used to show the levels of association between the dependent and independent variables through cross tabulations and results presented in tables.

Results

Of the 203 respondents, 68.5% were circumcised while 31.5% were uncircumcised. The sociodemographic factors age ($\chi^2 = 12.178$)($P=0.032$), religion ($\chi^2 = 27.616$)($P=0.000$), and education Level ($\chi^2=11.808$)($P=0.019$) were associated to the uptake of safe male circumcision while socioeconomic factors were occupation ($\chi^2=30.618$)($P=0.000$), housing condition ($\chi^2=14.618$)($P=0.001$), primary source of income ($\chi^2=12.494$)($P=0.002$), and income per month ($\chi^2=10.571$)($P=0.014$).

Results also showed an 82.8% positive attitude towards the uptake of male medical circumcision.

Conclusions and recommendations

The study concluded that the uptake of safe male circumcision in Nsambya village is high (68.5%), the sociodemographic factors influencing uptake of SMC are age, religion and educational level, and there is a positive attitude towards the uptake of safe male circumcision. The study recommended circumcision to be totally free in most health centres especially in the rural health centres ii and iii or at a reduced cost in private health centres, so that every classes of people can take up the services. More and regular sensitization, communication and awareness to be carried out, and services brought nearer to the people for easy access. The low socioeconomic class of people especially those with low or no education and low income should be increasingly targeted by information campaigns about positive health effects of medical circumcision, and they should be encouraged and involved in decision making of circumcision for themselves, relatives and peers.