



Focus group discussion guide – peer distributors

Section 1: Understanding and perceptions of HIV self-testing intervention

- Knowledge of main STAR aim
- Peer role and purpose within STAR
- Peer identity (as part of STAR or as part of community)
- Perspectives on self-testing delivery
- Perspectives on client-initiated self-testing
- Roles in community mobilisation for testing and perceived importance of critical events component

Section 2: Impact of the intervention on the community

- Opportunities created
- Perceptions of groups targeted (e.g., age groups)
- Stigma (FSW/MSM)
- Examples of community/individual impact – linked initiatives

Section 3: Perspectives on counselling

- Perceptions of participant need for counselling
- Examples of instances when counselling was vital (for HIV positive and HIV negative)
- Examples of instances when counselling was not necessary (for HIV positive and HIV negative)
- Examples of instances when client requested counselling specifically
- Rationales in favour/against provision of counselling for all clients

Section 4: Self testing experiences

- Importance of competency testing
- Client interpretations of test results
- Counsellor interpretations of test results
- Client perceptions of confidentiality
- Counsellor perceptions of confidentiality
- Influence on willingness to collect and return test kits
- Influence on disclosure to counsellors
- Influence on disclosure to partners

Section 5: Community relations

- Influence on community to test
- Role in decision-making for individuals and couples
- Differences in levels of influence by delivery model
- Extended relations with client testers post-testing
- Social integration/position of peers in community – range of different relations and impacts on testing decisions