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Kigali.
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REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



MINISTRY OF HEALTH
PO BOX 84 KIGALI
Web site: www.moh.gov.rw

TO :

- Director General, District Hospital (All)
- VMMC Implementing Partners

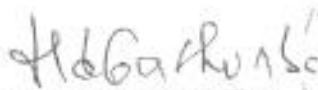
Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Revised instructions on HIV Testing in VMMC program

In line with recent WHO recommendations on Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC) as part of comprehensive HIV prevention strategy based on the fact VMMC reduces the risk of acquiring HIV infection by 60%; I would like to inform you about an important change.

In Rwanda, we have been scaling up VMMC along with systematic HIV testing to all clients coming for circumcision; however national VMMC data suggested that the positivity rate remain very low up to 0.036% in the young age group. For this reason and in the framework of implementing efficient services; it is highly recommended to reduce unnecessary HIV testing in young boys who are at a very low risk of HIV infection. Systematic testing of HIV in VMMC is recommended only for boys aged 15years and above.

I thank you for your commitment to continue achieving your targets towards an AIDS free generation.


Dr Diane GASHUMBA
Minister of Health



CC:

- Minister of State in charge of Public Health and Primary Health Care
- ✓ Director General /RBC