

FACTORS INFLUENCING MALE INVOLVEMENT IN FAMILY PLANNING IN NTCHISI DISTRICT, MALAWI

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Content

- Short overview
- Methodology
- Results: 5 themes
- Discussion: reflection on bias
- Practical recommendations (where do we go from here?)

Content



Short overview



Methodology



Results



Discussion



Recommendations

Short overview of topic

- Malawian Health sector: focus on male involvement in SRHR
- Large differences between female/male involvement in FP
 - *Attempts not as successful as aimed for... WHY?*
- Ntchisi district deserves attention
 - *Both MMR and FR higher than of Malawi as a whole*
- Understand where lack of male involvement derives from → recommendations for improvement

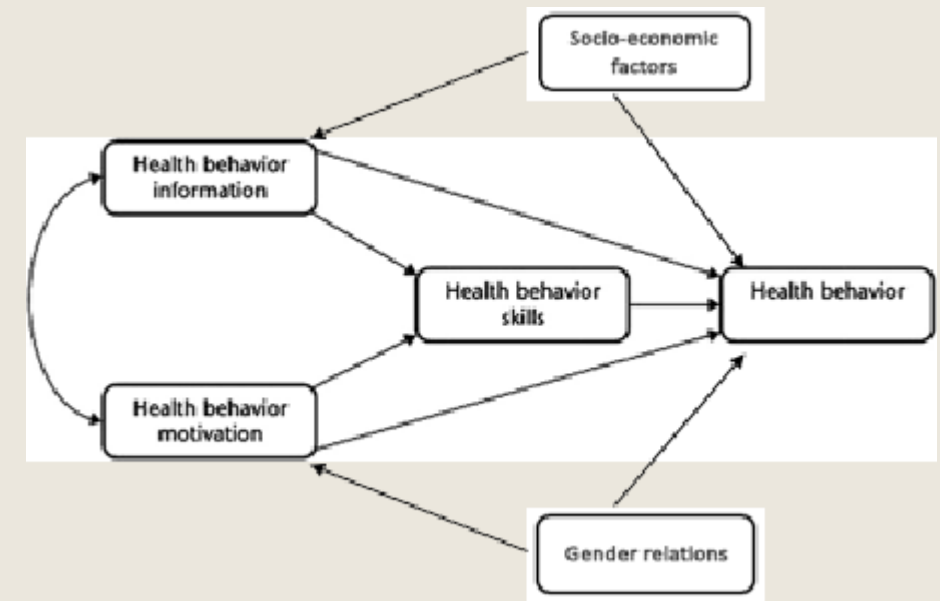


Research question:

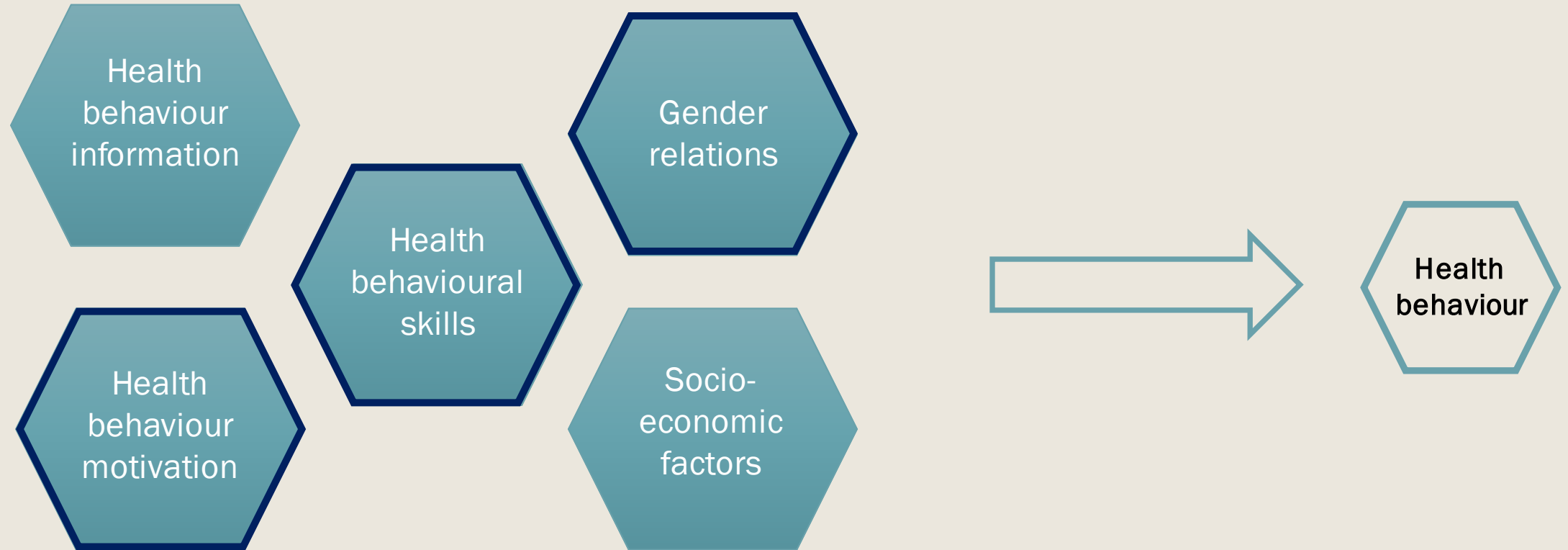
“WHICH FACTORS INFLUENCE MALE INVOLVEMENT IN FAMILY PLANNING IN NTCHISI DISTRICT, MALAWI?”

Methodology

- Study population: sexually active men
- Women and Health Surveillance Assistants
 - *Social motivation*
- Conceptual framework: combination of framework for SRHR and the IMB-model



Results: 5 major themes



Health behaviour motivation



- Personal attitude
 - *Acknowledge benefits*
 - *Means to an end*
 - *Shy/ashamed regarding going to clinic*

- Social influence
 - *Older men discuss FP with environment, younger men do not*
 - Not in school curriculum
 - 'Learn through mistakes'

Content



Short overview



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Recommendations

Gender relations



- Head of the household: decision-maker
- However: distances himself from responsibilities
 - *Woman's responsibility...*
 - To avoid pregnancy
 - To obtain FP methods
 - To take care of children
- Contradictive signs...

Content



Short overview



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Recommendations

Health behavioural skills



- 9/14 respondents never accompanied partner to clinic
 - *“Partner controls me”*
 - *Busy with the land*
 - *Resourcing money*
 - *Rather drink beer than wait around*

- Women want male accompaniment
 - *First in line*
 - *Improved information retention*

Content



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Recommendations

Discussion: reflection on bias

- Social desirability bias
 - *Researcher: foreigner, different gender, different age category*
- Unrelated conversations regarding the study
- Topics too sensitive
- Evaluation of their district rather than objective research
- Quoting radio commercials
- Influenced data on ‘positive attitude’
 - Please researcher (female)
 - Know what is ‘expected’



Discussion: reflection on bias

- Attempts to minimize bias
 - *Sitting next to respondents (not directly facing them)*
 - *Being more direct*
 - *Gaining trust of village headman prior to interviewing*

Content



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Recommendations

Discussion: reflection on bias

- Language barrier
 - *Use of a translator (male)*
- Use simplified versions of question
- Trigger simplified answers
- Impossibility to directly probe
- Attempts to minimize bias
 - *Translator: HSA for 17 years*
 - *Excellent knowledge of both English and Chichewa language*
 - *Pilot interviews*
 - *Back translation*



Practical recommendations

- FP awareness meetings
 - *Village headmen: facilitating, motivating*
 - *HSAs: educate, motivate*
 - *Amref: motivate HSAs and village headmen, provide guidance, organise*
- Train HSAs
 - *Passive → active*

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Practical recommendations

- Man-friendly ways regarding information provision
 - *Focus groups* → *how can we best involve men in FP?*
- Include: village headmen, HSAs, co-workers Amref (?), male respondents

- FP-related education in school curriculum

Content



Short overview



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Recommendations



amref
health africa

60th
amref
health africa
Anniversary
1957-2017

amref
health africa

amref
health africa

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