

## **Factors Influencing Prevalence of HIV/AIDS Among Men Who Have Sex With men (MSM) Aged 18-24 years in Mtwapa Town, Kilifi County, Kenya**

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**Abstract :** Background: Men who have sex with men (MSM) in Mtwapa Town, Kilifi County are at high risk of HIV infection. Probability sample surveys to determine HIV prevalence among MSM in Mtwapa are needed to inform prevention and care services. Methods: In 2013, a cross-sectional survey was conducted among MSM aged 18-24 years old, using respondent-driven sampling (RDS) in Mtwapa. Consenting MSM were tested for HIV (fingerstick rapid test). Population-based prevalence and 95 % confidence intervals (CI) were estimated using RDS Analysis Tool (RDSAT). Results: Among 274 MSM, the median age was 20 years (IQR: 19-23 years). Fifty percent of MSM reported not selling sex, while 13.2 % reported sex work as their "main occupation", and another 28.4 % reported selling sex in the past two months (but not as their main occupation). Overall HIV prevalence was 19.2 % (CI: 12.2-23.6%). HIV prevalence was higher among MSM who reported sex work as their main occupation (28.3%, CI: 12.1-42.3%) or selling sex in the past two months (26.6 %, CI: 17.2-35.7 %), than among MSM who did not sell sex (11.6%, CI: 7.0-18.1%). Conclusion: HIV prevalence among MSM were high than among Kilifi's general population aged 15-64 years (8.8%; 2010 KAIS) and highest in male sex workers. Health programs need to address concerns and modify services to meet needs of diverse subgroups of MSM. We recommend continued, periodic surveillance to monitor HIV prevalence among MSM in Mtwapa, and expansion to other areas in Kenya.

**Keywords :** power point, Kenya, homosexuality, sex

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