OPTIONS AGYW Training Package

Attachment 4: HIV Self-Perceptions of Risk and Attitudes toward AGYW

* Ask the participants to write on two pieces of paper—YES on one and NO on the other. Ask them to hold YES in the left hand and NO in the right hand.
* Eyes are to be closed and remain shut for the entire activity. No peeping!
* All participants are to be quiet and listen to the sentences that the trainer will read. The sentences will be related to HIV self-perceptions of risk and attitudes toward PrEP (see below).
* Participants should take a moment to ponder each sentence and raise a hand with a YES or NO response.
* Participants can choose not to answer.

**HIV self-perceptions of risk:**

1. I have taken an HIV test in the past year.
2. I or my sexual partner is currently pregnant.
3. I know the HIV status of my sexual partner(s).
4. I have had unprotected sex with someone of unknown HIV status.
5. I will get tested for HIV after this training.
6. I have had sex when completely drunk or intoxicated and can’t remember if I used condoms or not.
7. I have had sex with more than one sexual partner in the past year.
8. I am able to talk to my partner about condom use.
9. I am able to talk to my partner about having an HIV test.
10. I have been a victim/perpetrator of sexual violence/GBV/IPV.

**Attitudes toward PrEP as an HIV prevention tool:**

1. I would be comfortable with my sexual partner taking PrEP.
2. I would take PrEP to help prevent myself from getting infected with HIV.
3. I would find it easy to talk to my partner about my taking PrEP.

**Attitudes toward providing SRH and PrEP to AGYW**

1. I am comfortable providing SRH services like PrEP, condoms, and contraceptives to a 15-year-old girl who has many sexual partners.
2. I would allow my teenage daughter (whether I have one or not) to take PrEP to prevent HIV.

Ask the participants to open their eyes and share their experiences during the activity.

Questions 1—10:

How easy was it to answer these questions?

Can you put yourself in your clients’ shoes? How do they feel when you discuss risk?

Questions 11—13:

How do you personally feel about taking PrEP?

Questions 14—15:

How do you honestly feel about providing services to sexually active AGYW? How does this affect AGYW positively or negatively?

Ask the participants what the take home-messages are from the activity. Wrap up by ensuring that the following points are covered:

* A risk assessment and discussion is deeply personal and private. Therefore, we need to establish trust and rapport with clients.
* Did you feel the questions asked in the activity were too personal and private? (This enables us to consider how clients feel when doing a risk assessment). Were you confident others were not peeping? Privacy is a very fundamental ingredient for clients to be open and honest. Therefore, we need to ensure that we conduct your consultations in a space that ensures privacy. Interruptions, open doors, and thin walls all compromise privacy. (Think of this next time and remember how you felt when you knew others were peeping!)
* Disclosure is a huge challenge and we therefore need to be patient and understanding with our clients.
* Exploring risk is a deeply personal and subjective issue that we all need to reflect on before we provide services to others. This may help us understand clients and their challenges in being honest and acknowledging their own risk.
* Our values affect our communication and the services we provide.
* We need to be aware of how our values affect the way we relate to our clients.

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