

# IN-DEPTH EXPLORATION OF BARRIERS AND FACILITATORS OF INDEX-LINKED HIV TESTING

**Understanding enabling and inhibiting factors in the decision-making  
process of index testing.**

**Linderrose Dube**

Dissemination Meeting

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# SAMPLING PROCEDURES





# DATA COLLECTION: FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS





**Inadequate emphasis on pediatric HIV**

## Inadequate emphasis on pediatric HIV

*“We had only seen posters about free testing and if you are infected ,you start your medication. However , we had not heard about taking your children for testing, we heard this for the first time from B-GAP”*

*Caregiver #26, Male 54*

*“As for me, I had never really heard it as such, that children can get tested. But my child was constantly sick.”*

*Caregiver #13, Female 31*





- **Challenges in access to health facilities**





## HIV testing is not an isolated event

*“Where the father lives in South Africa, those mothers may not accept the idea of testing the child on their own in the absence of the father of the children because when he returns, he may want answers about where the child got HIV”*

*Caregiver #11, Female 37*

*“If my brother receives a call from me telling him that his child got tested and is now on ARVs, the next time we meet he will certainly kill you.”*

*Caregiver #23, Male 53*

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## Emotional and financial costs

*“I live with my grandchildren; my child lives in South Africa. I am responsible. But I am expected to first inform my my child, and if she refuses...I would rather tell her after the fact that I did this and that.”*


*Caregiver #14, Female 53*







- **Need for better messaging**
- **Support to caregivers**
- **Address access barriers**
- **Family centered approach**



conclusion

- **Index linked testing can improve testing uptake**
- **Community based testing can be used as a tool to facilitate and improve uptake for children**

*Dziva Chikwari C, Bernays S, Dringus S, Simms V, Weiss HA, Sibanda E, et al. **Addressing the challenges and relational aspects of index-linked HIV testing for children and adolescents: insights from the B-GAP study in Zimbabwe.** Implementation Science Communications. 2020;1(1):99.*

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Implementation Science  
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RESEARCH

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## Addressing the challenges and relational aspects of index-linked HIV testing for children and adolescents: insights from the B-GAP study in Zimbabwe



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