SRHR services for men: service needs, barriers, considerations and opportunities

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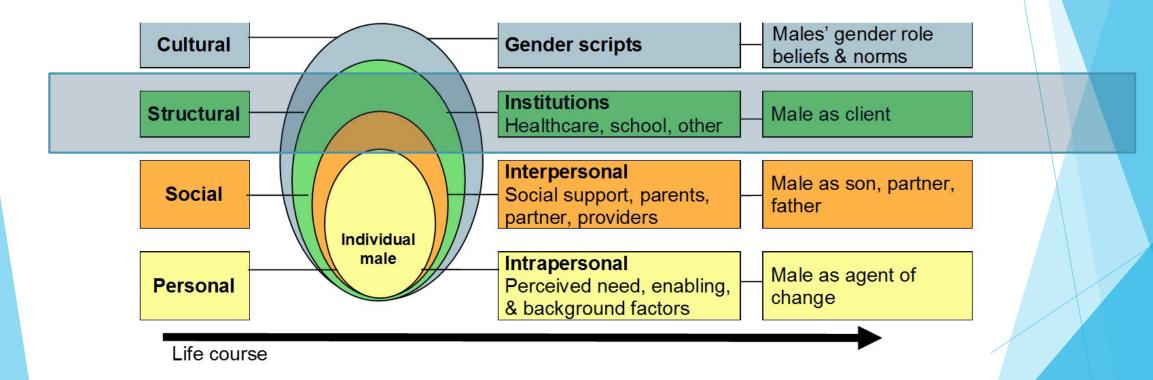
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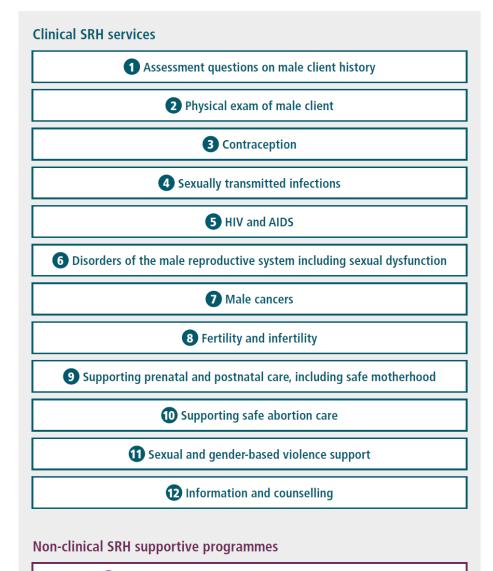




# Men's SRHR in its own right needs to be seen as part of the gender equality agenda



Shand, T. & Marcell, A. V. (2021). "Engaging Men in Sexual and Reproductive Health." In: Creanga, A. & Tsui, A. eds. *Oxford Encyclopaedia of Sexual and Reproductive Health*. New York: Oxford University Press Specific SRH service package for men and boys



**1** Information, education and communication materials

**2** Skills building and support

3 Advocacy issues in which to engage men and adolescent boys



**Global Sexual and Reproductive Health Package for** 







Shand, T., Hopkins, J., Zamir, J., Marcell, A. V., & Perlson, S. (2017). *Global sexual and reproductive health service package for men and adolescent boys,* IPPF and UNFPA.

SRH clinical services for men and adolescent boys	Components*
6. Disorders of the male reproductive system, including sexual dysfunction	<ul> <li>Diagnose and counsel client on sexual dysfunctions (erectile dysfunction, delayed ejaculation, premature ejaculation), and provide referral</li> </ul>
	<li>b. Treat (or refer) for sexual dysfunctions (erectile dysfunction, delayed ejaculation, premature ejaculation)</li>
	<ul> <li>Treat (or refer) for other disorders of the male reproductive system (warts, varicoceles, urological disease, etc.)</li> </ul>
	d. Screen and treat urinary tract infections (or refer)
7. Male cancers	<ul> <li>Counsel client on sexual and reproductive-related male cancers (prostate, testicular, penile, anal, breast)</li> </ul>
	b. Take a history for sexual and reproductive-related male cancers
	c. Refer for further investigation and management as necessary
8. Fertility and infertility	a. Counsel client on basic fertility awareness including pre-conception health
	b. Counsel couples for conception (if the partner agrees)
	c. Counsel client on infertility
	d. Provide basic infertility care for men, including semen analysis
	e. Provide vasectomy reversal (recanalisation) services (or refer)
	f. Treat for infertility/provide assisted reproduction (or refer)
	g. Counsel client (and partner) on adoption (or refer)



Global Sexual and Reproductive Health Package for





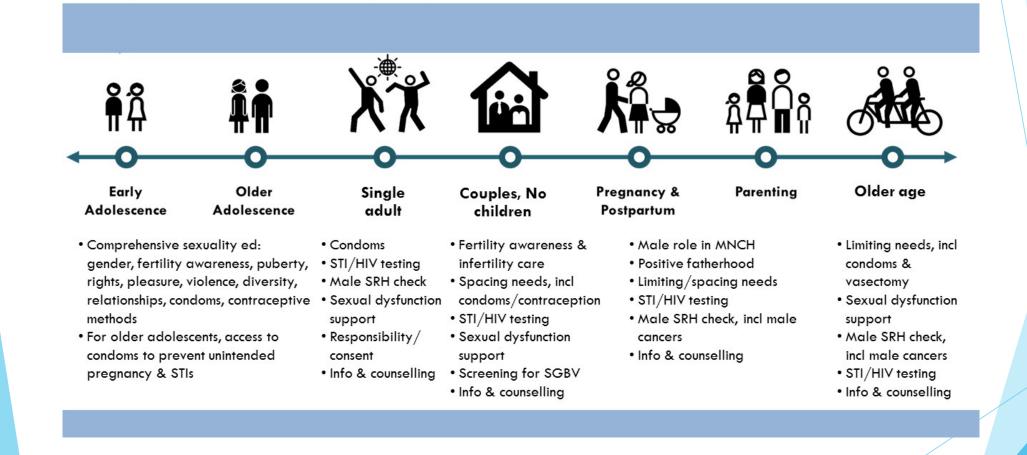
# Demand side barriers for men

- Men's limited knowledge/misunderstanding (particularly contraception)
- SRH education/information/campaigns not targeting men
- Messaging: negative, blaming, only instrumental
- Men's friends/peers can be source of misinformation/ myths
- Men's rejection of sexual health information flows from women to men
- Lack of focus on men feeds a sense of 'exclusion'
- Sexual pleasure, performance & fertility concerns
- Masculinities/gender norms limiting male healthseeking (stoicism, breadwinner, pride, virility)

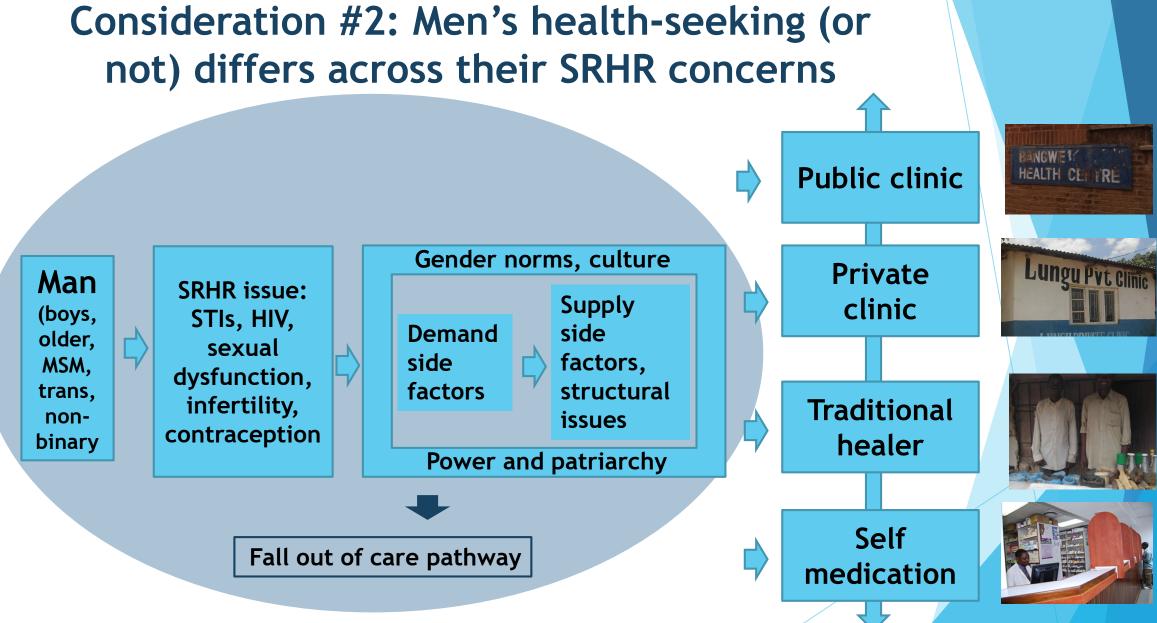
# Supply side barriers for men to SRH (public) services

- Limited SRH/clinical services specifically for men: such as infertility screening, STIs, sexual dysfunction, vasectomy services
- Environment: seen as women and children's space
- Poorly trained health providers (on male SRH)
- Negative attitudes of health providers
- Poor confidentiality and quality of care
- Long queues and wait times
- Structural issues: inconvenient opening times, layout (limited privacy), stock outs, distance, few male staff
- Institutional masculinities

#### Critical consideration #1: male SRHR life course



Shand, T. & Marcell, A. V. (2021). "Engaging Men in Sexual and Reproductive Health." In: Creanga, A. & Tsui, A. eds. *Oxford Encyclopaedia of Sexual and Reproductive Health*. New York: Oxford University Press



Shand, T. (2021). Opportunities, challenges and countervailing narratives: Exploring men's involvement in family planning and contraception in Southern Malawi [Doctoral dissertation, University College London, London, UK].

**Consideration #3: Private sector are filling the current gap in men's SRH services** (and may be reinforcing gender stereotypes in doing so)





Male Medical Clinic



# What has worked on men's SRHR

- Peer/group education, male leaders (religious)
- Media/campaigns/IEC targeting men
- E-health/m-health/Apps
- Capacitating health providers
- Facility: Environment, male only clinics
- Outreach/mobile clinics: community, home, workplace
- Male service providers
- Combined, positive and feminist informed approaches consistently shown to be most effective

Useful resource: Edström, J., Hassink, A., Shahrokh, T. & Stern, E. eds. (2015), *Engendering Men: A Collaborative Review of Evidence on Men and Boys in Social Change and Gender Equality*, EMERGE Evidence Review. Brighton: Promundo-US, Sonke Gender Justice and the Institute of Development Studies



### Thank you

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#### Links to resources:

Global SRH service package for men and adolescent boys, IPPF and UNFPA. https://www.ippf.org/r esource/globalsexual-andreproductive-healthpackage-men-andadolescent-boys



Global Sexual and Reproductive Health Package for MENNDOCESCENT CONTRACTOR ADDILESCENT

Building Male involvement in SRHR: A basic model for Male Involvement in SRHR, Sonke Gender Justice https://menandboys.ids.ac.uk /files/building-maleinvolvement-srhr-basicmodel-male-involvementsexual-and-reproductivehealth-and

Getting to Equal Publication, Engaging men and boys in SRHR and Gender Equality, Promundo (has priority SRH service areas for men): <u>https://promundoglobal.org/</u> <u>resources/getting-equal-</u> <u>engaging-men-boys-sexual-</u> <u>reproductive-health-rights-</u> <u>srhr-gender-equality/</u>





