

**Promoting Safe Behaviours, Sexual
and Reproductive Health and Gender-
Equitable Attitudes in Young Married
Couples in Maharashtra**

End line Report 2006-07

**Institute of Health Management Pachod (IHMP)
2006-2007**

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1. Introduction

A large number of adolescent girls in Maharashtra get married before the legal age of 18 years. Early marriage and motherhood are associated with adverse reproductive health outcomes. This target group has special needs that are not addressed by the formal health system. The Institute of Health Management, Pachod (IHMP) undertook an 18 month intervention research project, which addressed the health needs of married adolescent girls (MAGs).

The intervention promoting sexual and reproductive health in young married couples aimed to reduce reproductive morbidity and control the HIV epidemic in the rural area. It will be useful as most AIDS prevention efforts have concentrated on urban areas.

The project was implemented at the rural setting in Aurangabad district comprising 600 couples.

The report describes the findings of the end line survey about the reproductive health status, health seeking behaviour, knowledge on HIV/AIDS, HIV testing etc. of husbands of married adolescent girls.

Broad Objective

Improve the sexual and reproductive health of young married couples in 28 villages in rural Aurangabad District.

The project was designed to measure the impact of a well-defined intervention on five outcomes. The proposed project outcomes were:

1. The proportion of treatment seeking for RTI and STI among married adolescent will increase by 20% points
2. There will be an increase in institutional deliveries in young married girls by 10% points
3. The prevalence of domestic violence will be reduced by 10% points
4. There will be 5% points increase in the use of condoms by young married couples
5. More than 10% young married men shall seek voluntary counseling and testing (VCT) services for HIV.

The 18 months intervention planned to work with couples. The intervention included reaching the couples at the household and group level. A detailed surveillance system formulated the basis of the intervention. Specific inputs were planned for both husbands and wives. These included home visits, group meetings and “couple melawas” (workshops for couples).

The interventions were divided into two broad areas – primary level care and BCC (Behavior Change Communication) for creating a demand for services and generating behavioural change at the individual and household levels.

Two Interventions

1. Primary level care for the sexual and reproductive health of young married couples.
2. BCC (behavior change communication) interventions and counseling intervention for sexual and reproductive health, gender sensitization and prevention of risk behaviours.

Research Design

The research design for the study is a pre-post test design. The respondents for the study are husbands of married adolescent girls in 28 villages.

Sample Size

The sample design used for the survey is systematic random sampling. The target sample size for the study was set at 100 completed interviews with husbands of married adolescent girls aged 13-19 years.

Study Setting

The study was implemented in rural settings. Villages under the primary health centres of Paithan block, Auranagabad district, Maharashtra, with a population of approximately 30,000 were selected for the study. Information from 100 husbands of married adolescent girls (13 to 19 years) was collected from November 2006 to December 2006.

Scope of the end line Survey

A uniform pre-coded questionnaire was used for the data collection. The questionnaire was translated in Marathi and pre-tested by the IHMP staff. A total of 9 pre-test interviews were completed in three villages near Pachod. Appropriate modifications were made in the questionnaire based on the pre-testing. The questionnaire was used to collect information from husbands of married adolescent girls aged 13-19 years. The following sections were included in the questionnaire:

Respondent's Background:

Questions on current age, education, occupation of the respondent, family type etc. are included.

Wife's current pregnancy:

Information on wife's current pregnancy is collected in this section.

Awareness of FP methods and Condom use:

Questions on knowledge of FP methods, ever used a condom, current use of condom etc. are included in this section.

Reproductive Health:

This section provides information about the urinary tract infections, reproductive tract infections and sexually transmitted diseases.

Knowledge regarding HIV/AIDS:

This section collected information on, attitudes regarding HIV/AIDS, knowledge of transmission of HIV/AIDS, prevention of HIV/AIDS, and treatment of HIV/AIDS.

Knowledge regarding testing for HIV/AIDS:

This section collected information on knowledge regarding HIV/AIDS testing, awareness regarding HIV/AIDS testing centres for men and pregnant woman and awareness of VCT centres.

Family violence:

Questions on wife beating are included in this section.

BCC exposure:

Questions on BCC exposure were included in this section. Questions on group meetings at village level, pamphlet distribution, couple workshop, STI services at PHC and Sub-centre level, SATHI kedra etc. were included in this section

Data Collection

Data was collected from husbands of married adolescent girls in the age group of 13-19 years. There were 6 male investigators appointed for data collection. Investigators were provided with in-depth training prior to the initiation of data collection. Quality checks were conducted and every questionnaire was checked for completion and accuracy. Data collection was completed between November and December 2006.

Section 1: Background Characteristics

During the survey 100 husbands of married adolescent girls were covered from 28 villages of one primary health centre. The area comprised approximate population of 30,000.

Current Age of Married Adolescent Girls and their husbands:

The average age of the husbands of married adolescent girls was 24.8 years with a range from 20 years to 40 years. About 48 percent of husbands were less than 24 years of age. About 4 years age difference was observed between the mean age of married adolescent girls and their spouses. Most (68 percent) of the husbands were in the age group of 20-25 years.

Education:

It was seen that about 5 percent of husbands of married adolescent girls did not have any formal education and 74 percent had an education of high school or more.

Occupation:

It is apparent from Table 1 that majority of husbands are engaged in agricultural activities as a labourer or working in their own field. 21 percent husbands are engaged in small business.

Table 1: Distribution of Husbands by Occupation, 2006

Occupation	Husbands of Married Adolescent Girls	
	f	(%)
Labourer	14	14.0
Farmer	57	57.0
Business	21	21.0
Driver	05	05.0
Others	03	03.0
Total	100	100.0

About 14 % husbands were agricultural or other labourers. The remaining were farmers, having small businesses.

Type of Family

On average 6 members are living in the family. The number of family members ranged from 2 to 18 members. About 65 percent of families had more than 6 family members.

Table 2: Type of Family of husbands of Married Adolescent Girls, 2006

Type of Family					
Nuclear		Joint		Total	
f	(%)	f	(%)	f	(%)
12	12.0	88	88.0	100	100.0

88 % young married couples lived with joint families and very few (12 percent) live in a nuclear family.

Religion:

The majority (83 percent) of the respondents were Hindus followed by Muslims and Buddhists.

Number of Rooms in a House:

The majority of the couples were from a lower socio-economic background as indicated by the size of their houses. On average, young married couples live in structures with 2.7 rooms, ranging from 1 room to 6 rooms. 11 percent had one room tenements, 40 percent had two room homes and the remaining 49 percent had three or more room in the house.

Table 3: Distribution of Young married men by Number of Rooms in the Living Structure, 2006

Number of Rooms	Young Married Men	
	f	%
1	11	11.0
2	40	40.0
3	23	23.0
4	17	17.0
5+	09	09.0

Awareness regarding current pregnancy of wife

Information regarding current pregnancy of the wife was collected from all 100 husbands of young married girls. 23 percent husbands reported that their wife was currently pregnant at the time of survey.

Husbands of these young married girls reported that most (48 percent) of currently pregnant married adolescent girls were in the second trimester of pregnancy followed by first trimester (26 percent) and third trimester (26 percent).

All husbands reported that they wanted this pregnancy now.

Knowledge of Family Planning Methods:

A high awareness of family planning methods was observed among the young married men. 98 percent of men were aware of family planning methods for delaying or avoiding pregnancy. 93% percent of men were aware of condoms followed by oral pills (82%), and female sterilization (45%). A substantially low proportion of men knew about IUD (35%) and male sterilization (7.0%).

The majority of young married men (64%) reported that they prefer Primary Health centres for utilization of FP services followed by medical stores (45%) and depot holders at village level (34%).

All young married men were asked about which FP method they would like to use for birth control, 90% men prefer condoms followed by oral pills (73%), female sterilization (56%), IUD (23%) and substantially low proportion of men reported male sterilization.

A large majority of these young men reported that condom (90%) and sexual abstinence (73%) are the methods to protect from unwanted pregnancies as well as STI/HIV/AIDS.

Awareness and use of condom

A high level of awareness of condoms was observed among the young married men. 98 percent of men stated that they had either heard or seen a condom and 73.5 percent of them knew the correct way to use a condom.

Respondents were also asked to identify sources from where they could procure condoms. Respondents had the option of citing multiple sources. 96.9% respondents stated that they could procure condoms from a pharmacy and (93 percent) stated that it is very easy to get condoms regularly from a pharmacy. 82.6% of respondents cited Clinic/Hospital, among them 95 percent of respondents reported that it is very easy to get them from a clinic/hospital. A very few respondents stated that they could procure condoms from peer educator (3.1 percent). 86.7% of respondents stated that it is very easy to get a condom from these places. (See table 4)

Table4: Availability and accessibility of condom

Sr.	Question	Frequency (%)
1.	Ever heard of a condom	Yes.....98.0 No.....02.0
2.	Know the correct use of a condom	Yes.....73.5 No.....26.5
3.	Places or persons from where one can obtain a condom	Pharmacy.....96.9 Clinic.....82.6 Peer educator.....03.1
4.	Easy to get a condom from Pharmacy	Yes.....93.7 No.....06.3
5.	Easy to get a condom from clinic/hospital	Yes.....95.1 No.....04.9

About 64 percent young married men reported that they had ever used a condom and about 31 percent young married men reported that they were using condoms at the time of survey.

The question, “out of 5 of your close friends how many are currently using a condom?” was asked to all men who had ever heard of a condom, about 26.0 percent of men reported that no close friends were currently using a condom, 21 percent reported that all are 5 were using condoms and 55 percent reported that out of 5 closed friends one to four were currently using condoms. (See table 5)

Table 5: Use of a condom

Sr.	Question	Frequency (%)
1.	Ever use of a condom	Yes.....64.3 No.....35.7
2.	Current use of a condom at the time of survey	Yes.....31.6 No.....68.4
3.	Out of five closed friends how many are using a condom	None.....26.0 One to two53.0 Five.....21.0

Opinion on why people do not use condom for spacing was asked to all men who have ever heard of a condom. More than one fourth (27 percent) men reported that people do not use condoms for spacing because they feel disgusting, 24 percent reported that people want a child, 14 percent reported that people are not aware about advantages of use of condoms and 15 percent reported that condom use reduces sexual pleasure. (See table 6)

About 97 percent of the men who have ever heard of a condom reported that use of condom during sexual intercourse reduce the risk of AIDS (See table 6)

Table 6: Perception on use of a condom

Sr.	Question	Frequency (%)
1.	Perception on why people do not use a condom for spacing	Not aware of advantages of use of a condom.....14.0 Condom use reduces sexual pleasure15.0 People want a child.....24.0 Feel disgusting27.0 Lack of knowledge of how to use a condom.....11.0 Condom use reduce interest 09.0 Myths related to use of condom...10.0 People do not desire to use a condom.....03.0 Condom is not available at village level.....01.0 People are using pills for spacing..... 04.0 Condom use reduce duratin of intercourse01.0 Female feels disgusting 01.0
2.	Use of condom during sexual intercourse reduce the risk of AIDS	Yes.....97.0 No.....03.0

Knowledge of STI:

The men were asked whether they knew about the symptoms that are caused by sexually transmitted diseases. 68% men knew that STIs caused abdominal pain, 57% said that foul smelling discharge is one of the symptoms. Burning pain on urination was known by 66% of the men as a symptom. 68% men also said that a STI also causes itching. 34% said about genital ulcers, 29% said about swelling in groin area. Other symptoms known by the men were bleeding from private parts (21%), pain and tenderness (14%), continuous fever (12%) and painful sexual intercourse (13%).

They were asked about the availability of treatment for STD’s in their area. 77% of them said that the treatment is available in their area, 9% said that treatment is not available in their area and 14% were not sure about the availability of the treatment in their area. On an average the men felt 82.5 paise that these services are useful for them. (Table 7)

Table 7: Knowledge of STI

Sr.	Questions	Frequency (Percent) (N=100)
1	Do you know the followings symptoms that are caused by sexually transmitted diseases?	Abdominal Pain.....68.0 Foul smelling discharge.....57.0 Burning pain on urination.....66.0 Genital ulcers/sores.....34.0 Swelling in groin.....29.0 Continuous fever.....12.0 Itching.....68.0 Painful sexual intercourse.....13.0 Bleeding from private parts21.0 Pain & tenderness.....14.0

Sr.	Questions	Frequency (Percent) (N=100)
2	Treatment for sexually transmitted diseases is available in your area?	Yes.....77.0 No.....09.0 Don't Know.....14.0
3	Paise in a rupee do you feel this services (treatment for STI) are useful for you?	Mean Paise: 82.45 Range: 20 to 100

UTI, RTI, STI

Reproductive Morbidity:

Information on reproductive morbidity was collected among all 100 young married men. Of the 100 men interviewed, about 5 percent had one or more reproductive health problems. Table 8 shows the various reproductive health conditions and their symptoms among young married men.

About 3 percent of men reported one or more symptoms of urinary tract infections. Of these, 1 percent had burning and pain when passing urine, and all 3 percent had increased frequency of micturition. But none of them had been for treatment for pain and burning in passing urine and for increased frequency in passing urine.

None of the men had any symptoms related to reproductive tract infections.

Table 8: Distribution of Men by Reproductive Health Problems and Treatment Seeking Behaviour, 2006

Name of the Condition	Men		Symptoms of Each Condition	Men		Men Taken Treatment	
	f	(%)		f	(%)	f	(%)
Urinary Tract Infection (UTI)	03	03.0	Pain and burning in passing urine	01	01.0	00	00.0
			Desire for frequent micturition	03	03.0	00	00.0
			Pass urine mixed with blood	00	00.0	00	00.0
Reproductive Tract Infection (RTI)	00	00.0	Purulent discharge during urination/ at the beginning/or at the end	00	00.0	00	00.0
			Pain while passing urine	00	00.0	00	00.0
Sexually Transmitted diseases (STD)	03	03.0	Foul smelling purulent discharge (pus) through the urethra at present	00	00.0	00	00.0
			Painful/ painless ulcer in genitalia	01	01.0	01	100.0
			Pain/ burning sensation while passing urine at present?	01	01.0	00	00.0
			Pain and difficulty in getting erection	01	01.0	00	00.0

Name of the Condition	Men		Symptoms of Each Condition	Men		Men Taken Treatment	
	f	(%)		f	(%)	f	(%)
			Pain and swelling in the inguinal area at present (lymph node enlargement)?	00	00.0	00	00.0
Any on symptom of UTI/RTI/STI				05	05.0		

About 3 percent of men said they had some problems related to sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). One man had painful or painless ulcer in the genitalia, one had pain/burning sensation while passing urine at the time of the interview and one had pain and difficulty in getting an erection. Out of these three men who had some symptom related to a STD the one who had an ulcer in the genitalia had been for treatment.

HIV and AIDS Knowledge:

This study includes a set of questions on knowledge of AIDS. In particular, information was collected on transmission and prevention, as well as a series of questions probing for knowledge beyond standard transmission and prevention.

Table 8 shows the percentage of men who have heard about HIV and AIDS. Almost all (99 percent) men had heard of AIDS on the other hand 95 percent had heard of HIV. A very small proportion of men, more than one forth (28 percent) knew that there is a difference between HIV and AIDS.

All men who had heard of AIDS were asked about their sources of AIDS information. Television was by far the most important source of information about AIDS among men. Ninety percent of men who know about AIDS received information from that source. Other important sources of information about AIDS were friends & relatives (56 percent), newspaper & magazines (58 percent), health workers (35 percent), radio (58 percent). Only 7 percent report that they received information about AIDS from a teacher. (See table 9)

About 90 percent of men reported that they had a discussion on AIDS with someone within the last one year. Only 10 percent of men strongly agreed that there are chances that a person like themselves will get AIDS. Out of all men, half (45 percent) have knowledge that it is possible for one partner to have HIV and the other one not to have HIV. (See table 9)

Table 9: Awareness of HIV/AIDS

Sr.	Question	Frequency (%)
1.	Ever heard of HIV	Yes.....95.0
		No.....05.0
2.	Ever heard of AIDS	Yes.....99.0
		No.....01.0
3.	Is there difference between HIV and AIDS	Yes.....64.0

Sr.	Question	Frequency (%)
		No.....28.0 Don't know...08.0
4.	Source of knowledge about AIDS	Radio.....58.0 Television.....90.0 Newspaper.....58.0 Health functionary ...35.0 Teacher.....07.0 Friends.....56.0
5.	Discuss on AIDS with in the last one year	Yes.....90.0 No.....10.0
4.	Paise in a rupee do you think are the chances that a person like yourself will get AIDS?	0-33.....74.0 34-66.....11.0 67-100.....10.0 Don't know....05.0 Mean = 20.61
5.	In a married couple, is it possible for one person to have HIV and the other one not to have HIV?	Yes.....45.0 No.....53.0 Don't know....02.0

Knowledge of Transmission of HIV/AIDS

In a series of prompted questions, respondents gave correct and incorrect statements about AIDS transmission. Table 9 shows knowledge of correct ways of transmission. A majority of young married men were aware that HIV/AIDS could be transmitted through blood transfusion. Awareness of transmission of HIV/AIDS through sharing needles was consistently high among men (99 percent).

About 99 percent of young married men were aware that HIV/AIDS is transmitted through sexual contact. Most of the men were aware of mother to child transmission, 92 percent of young married men were aware that HIV/AIDS could be transmitted by an infected mother to her child and 84 percent young married men were aware that HIV/AIDS could be transmitted through breast feeding. (See table 10)

Table 10: Correct routs of Transmission of HIV/AIDS

Sr.	Question	Frequency (%)
1.	Can AIDS be transmitted by contaminated syringes/needles?	Yes.....99.0 No.....01.0
2.	Can AIDS be transmitted by blood transfusion from an infected person?	Yes.....99.0 No.....01.0
3.	Can AIDS be transmitted through sexual contact?	Yes.....99.0 No.....01.0
4.	Can AIDS be transmitted by an infected	Yes.....92.0

Sr.	Question	Frequency (%)
	pregnant mother to her unborn child?	No.....04.0 Don't know...04.0
5.	Can AIDS be transmitted through breast-feeding (among infected mothers)?	Yes.....84.0 No.....11.0 Don't know...05.0

Incorrect knowledge regarding transmission of HIV/AIDS

Most of the young married men harbored some incorrect beliefs regarding transmission of HIV/AIDS. 9 out of 10 interviewed respondents knew that HIV/AIDS could not be transmitted through mosquito bites. A large proportion of young married men (97 percent) knew that HIV/AIDS could not be transmitted through hand shaking, 97 percent knew that HIV/AIDS could not be transmitted through hugging, 88 percent knew that HIV/AIDS could not be transmitted through kissing, 95 percent knew that HIV/AIDS could not be transmitted through sharing cloths and bedding. On the other hand 8 percent of young married men thought that HIV/AIDS could be transmitted through breathing next to AIDS patient. (See table 11)

Table 11: Incorrect beliefs regarding transmission of HIV/AIDS

Sr.	Question	Frequency (%)
1.	HIV/AIDS could be transmitted through mosquito bites	Yes.....08.0 No.....90.0 Don't know...02.0
2.	HIV/AIDS could be transmitted through hand shaking/touching	Yes.....02.0 No.....97.0 Don't know...01.0
3.	HIV/AIDS could be transmitted through hugging	Yes.....02.0 No.....97.0 Don't know...01.0
4.	HIV/AIDS could be transmitted through kissing	Yes.....10.0 No.....88.0 Don't know...02.0
5.	HIV/AIDS could be transmitted through sharing cloths	Yes.....04.0 No.....95.0 Don't know...01.0
6.	HIV/AIDS could be transmitted through share beddings	Yes.....04.0 No.....95.0 Don't know...01.0
7.	HIV/AIDS could be transmitted through sharing eating utensils	Yes.....04.0 No.....95.0 Don't know...01.0
8.	HIV/AIDS could be transmitted through breathing next to AIDS patient	Yes.....08.0 No.....89.0 Don't know...03.0

Knowledge of Prevention of HIV/AIDS

Most of the husbands of married adolescent girls (94%) were aware that having one faithful sex partner could prevent transmission of HIV/AIDS. About (95%) were aware that using a condom every time they had sex with multiple partners could prevent HIV/AIDS. A large proportion of young married men (87%) knew that a single extramarital sexual intercourse could lead to HIV infection.

Table 12: Knowledge of prevention of HIV/AIDS

Sr.	Question	Frequency (%)
1.	People protect themselves from AIDS by having one faithful sex partner	Yes.....94.0 No.....04.0 Don't know...02.0
2.	A person protect self from AIDS by abstaining from sexual intercourse with multiple partners	Yes.....95.0 No.....03.0 Don't know...02.0
3.	People protect themselves from AIDS by using a condom every time they have sex with multiple partners	Yes.....95.0 No.....03.0 Don't know...02.0
4.	A single extramarital sexual intercourse lead to AIDS infection	Yes.....87.0 No.....10.0 Don't know...03.0

Knowledge of treatment of HIV/AIDS

About (88 percent) of young married men were aware that disease AIDS is not curable. 90 percent husbands of married adolescent girls knew that there is no vaccine available to prevent HIV/AIDS. On the other hand 78.0 percent were aware regarding treatment that can prolong the life of a person living with AIDS.

Knowledge of HIV testing

93 percent young married men were aware that there is a test available for detecting HIV. A large proportion of men (97 percent) felt that it was necessary for people to get tested for AIDS and 95 percent agree that it was necessary for pregnant women to get tested for AIDS. On the other hand 19 percent of men strongly agree that when a person goes for testing the community will stigmatize them. A question was asked to all men on their desire to get tested for HIV, less than half (44 percent) men were interested in getting tested for HIV. (See table 13)

About 64 percent of men were aware of a centre/place from where a person can get an HIV test done and 37 percent were aware of a centre/place where a pregnant woman could get an HIV test done. A few (12 percent) men were aware of voluntary counseling and testing centre for HIV.

All young married men were asked whether they ever had an HIV test, a very few 4 percent of men reported ever having an HIV test done. Reasons for HIV test were extra marital relations, doctor's referral, peer pressure and one man reported a recurrent fever. One man went to a primary health centre for an HIV test, and others went to private hospital at block level or government hospital at block level. 42% of young married men had a discussion on HIV testing with their wives.

Table 13: Knowledge of HIV testing

Sr.	Question	Frequency (%)
1.	Is there any test available for detecting AIDS?	Yes.....93.0 No.....01.0 Don't know...06.0
2.	It is necessary for people to get tested for AIDS?	Yes.....97.0 No.....01.0 Don't know...06.0
3.	It is necessary for pregnant women to get tested for AIDS?	Yes.....95.0 No.....02.0 Don't know...03.0
4.	Paise in a rupee do you think that if a person goes for testing he/she will get stigmatized by the community	0-33 paise.....63.0 34-66 paise ...16.0 67-100 paise ..19.0 Don't know...02.0 Mean = 30.37
5.	Would you like to get tested for AIDS?	Yes.....44.0 No.....56.0
6.	Ever had an AIDS test done?	Yes.....04.0 No.....96.0

Domestic Violence

In order to access the prevalence of domestic violence, all men were asked whether they had beaten or physically mistreated their wife in the last one year. About 12 percent of men reported that they had beaten or physically mistreated their wife in the last one year. These men were asked for the regularity in the last 12 months preceding the survey of beatings or physical mistreatment: many times, a few times, once or not at all. Table 19 shows the frequency of beatings in the past 12 months. 50 percent of men reported that they had beaten their wives at least once during the 12 months preceding the survey and about 17 percent had beaten them many times in this period. Most of the men reported that they had beaten or physically mistreated their wives in the past one month preceding the survey.

(See table 14)

Table 14: Domestic Violence

Sr.	Question	Frequency (%)
1.	Beaten or mistreated physically to wife in the past year	Yes.....12.0 No.....88.0
2.	Beaten or physically mistreated in the past 12 months (N = 12)	Once.....50.7 Few times33.3 Many times16.7
3.	Beaten or physically mistreated in the past 1 months (N = 12)	Once.....41.7 Few times16.7 Not beaten.....41.7
4	How many paise in a rupee do you feel it is OK for husband to beat his wife?	0-33 paise.....95.0 34-66 paise ...03.0 67-100 paise ..01.0 Don't know...01.0 Mean = 00.0

BCC exposure:**Group meetings:**

All men were asked about the group meetings conducted in 28 villages by the social workers of the institute. Satisfaction with the meetings was asked of the men. On an average 12 meetings were conducted in each village in one year. 32% of men had attended the group meetings at the village level once or twice in the last year. Only 17% of the men attended meetings 3 times or more in last year preceding the survey. More than half (51%) did not attend any of the group meetings conducted at the village levels in the last year preceding the survey. The men who had attended the meetings were asked how useful they thought the information given at the group meetings was. 63% of the men strongly felt that the information is useful for them. (See table 15)

Pamphlet distribution:

Pamphlets on RTI/STI, HIV, VCT services, Family planning, etc were printed and distributed to each and every household in the study area. A series of questions were asked to the men about the distribution of pamphlets. Only 61% of the men reported that they had received pamphlets so far. Out of them 75% feel that the information given in the pamphlet was useful for them. (See table 15)

Couple workshops:

Workshops were conducted at the institute level for couples from the villages of the study area. The couples were invited to the institute and information was given to them. Only 33% men reported that they had attended the couple workshop conducted at the institute. Out of them only 58% of the men had taken their wives along to the couple workshop. Almost all of them strongly agree that the information provided at the couple workshop was beneficial for couples. (See table 15)

STI clinics:

Clinics for RTI and STI problems were conducted at the sub center and PHC levels where the dwellers from the study area can avail equivalent health services. 65% of men were aware that such clinics were held in the villages. Only 3% of the men had ever visited the clinics for any problem. 36% of men reported their friends availed health services from these clinics. (See table 15)

Information center (SATHI Kendra):

Information centers were established at every village in the study area. These centers were run voluntarily by a couple (SATHI couple) from the village itself. Health information was available to residents through posters, books and pamphlets at the center. The center was open twice a week, once for men and once for women. 43% of the men were aware of the information center run at their villages. Out of them only 70% reported ever visiting the SATHI Kendra. (See table 15)

Depot holders for condom distribution:

Depot holders are the voluntary workers from the villages who are provided with condoms from the institute. These depot holders provided these condoms to the men in the village whenever needed. 72% of the men were aware of the depot holders for condom distribution at their villages. Out of them 46% reported ever receiving condoms from these depot holders. Around 71% reported that their friends also received condoms from the depot holders. (See table 15)

Table 15: BCC exposure

Sr.	Questions	Percent (N=100)
1	How many times you have attended group meeting for men at village level?	One-Two times32.0 Three+17.0 Not attended.....51.0
2	How many paisa in a rupee do you feel the information provided in men's meeting is useful for men? (N=49)	40-90 Paise.....36.7 100 Paise.....63.3 Mean = 91.1
3	Have you received any pamphlets on health?	Yes.....61.0 No.....39.0
4	How many paisa in a rupee do you feel the information provided in pamphlet is useful for men? (N=61)	50-95 Paise.....25.0 100 Paise.....75.0 Mean = 93.6
5	Have you ever attended couple workshop for young married couples?	Yes.....33.0 No.....67.0
6	Did you take your wife for couple workshop? (N=33)	Yes.....57.6 No.....42.4

Sr.	Questions	Percent (N=100)
7	How many paise in a rupee do you feel the information provided at couple workshop is useful for couples? (N=33)	60-95 Paise.....18.2 100 Paise.....81.8 Mean = 96.5
8	Are you aware of treatment for STI at PHC level?	Yes.....65.0 No.....35.0
9	Have you ever visited STI clinic at PHC level for treatment of STI?	Yes.....03.0 No.....97.0
10	Your friends ever visited STI clinic at PHC level for treatment of STI?	Yes.....36.0 No.....64.0
11	How many friends visited STI clinics at PHC level for treatment of STI?	Mean = 3.22
12	Are you aware of SATHI Kendra at village level?	Yes.....43.0 No.....57.0
13	Have you ever visited SATHI Kendra at village level? (N=43)	Yes.....69.7 No.....30.30
14	Are you aware of depot holder for condom distribution at village level?	Yes.....72.0 No.....28.0
15	Have you ever received a condom from depot holder? (N=72)	Yes.....45.8 No.....54.2
16	Any of your friends ever received a condom from depot holder? (N=72)	Yes.....70.8 No.....29.2