

Advancing HIV Vaccine Trial Preparedness among Men who have Sex with Men in India

The purpose of the proposed study is to prepare communities of MSM in India for informed decision-making and meaningful involvement in HIV vaccine research.

The specific objectives of the research are, firstly, to explore and assess HIV vaccine and clinical trial knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, and local vaccination cultures among MSM in Chennai and Mumbai. This will be assessed qualitatively through FGD (focus group discussions) with community members. And, secondly, to assess willingness to participate in HIV vaccine trials and determinants of willingness to participate. This is to be assessed quantitatively i.e through administration of survey questionnaire developed on the basis of information received through the qualitative data.

Most WTP research ultimately addresses the goal of increasing enrolment of high-risk volunteers in HIV vaccine trials. The objectives of the CIHR operating grant are focused on willingness to participate versus informed decision-making.

The study is now completed and papers published are available in the resources section of www.humsafar.org