

# Nurses doing circumcision?

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# Background

- Vast numbers required
- Insufficient surgeons / doctors
- Burden given to nurses e.g.
  - Primary Health Care
  - Abortions
  - etc

# Delegation of authority

- S.A Nursing Council
  - Not in Scope of Practice
  - Practice Policies and Guidelines
  - If no alternative ,medical superintendent may give written authorization for circumcision if
    - 1 .Trained and competent
    - 2 .Controlled situation

# Cont.

- Denosa (Democratic Nurses of South Africa) and Hospersa( Hospital Personnel Association of SA)
- Membership not compulsory but ideal
- Employment HIV Cover
- Policy on Occupational Hazards

# Other procedures by nurses

- X-rays
- Sclerotherapy Injections
- Suturing (Trauma / Delivery)
- Epidural pain control
- Termination of pregnancy

# Training

- Primary Health Care Clinicians ,Nursing Sisters ,Staff Nurses
- Duration of Training ,Theory and Practice,
- Exams and ongoing induction
- Monitoring
- Management of immediate and long term complications

# Referral system

- Superintendent –Training Hospital
- Head of Surgical Dept
- Head of District Clinic/Institution

# Clients

- Males ,±15 years and above
- Consent and Confidentiality
- Benefits , Procedure , After care
- Medical History

# Brief Survey

- PHC Clinicians ,Nursing Sisters and Staff Nurses ,Total =50
- Positive Response =37
  - Reasons were Good Remuneration ,Proper training ,witnessed previously
- Negative Response =13
  - Reasons were Fear of handling male genitals, Fear of complications ,Not interested at all.

# Circumcisions in other Provinces

- Reports of Nurses doing Circumcision in the Limpopo Province
- Commonly Male Nurses
- Procedures monitored by the Surgical Doctors
- Doing approximately 3-5 Circumcisions per day

# Conclusion

- Given an opportunity, nurses can carry out this procedure in an exceptional manner.
- Proper consultation with all relevant stakeholders will drive this plan with success.

**END**