Chapter 2: The PrePex Device
Learning Objectives

- At the end of this session, participants should be able to:
  - Describe the PrePex device and the functions of each of the device’s parts
  - Describe the mechanism of action of the PrePex device
Activity 2.1 Knowledge Check Game

- Let’s name the parts of the PrePex device (Activity 2.1 in the participant handbook).
- In your group, name the parts of the device shown.
- Each correct name will be awarded 20 points.
- A wrong answer will be penalized; 10 points will be deducted.
- Give your answer in 10 seconds.
- Good luck!
Part 1
Part 3
Part 4
Components of a PrePex Device

- PrePex Device
- Placement Ring
- Inner Ring
- Verification thread
- Elastic Ring
Device Parts

- Part 1: Inner ring
- Part 2: Placement ring
- Part 3: Elastic ring with verification thread (wraps around elastic ring)
- Part 4: PrePex sizing plate (single use): sizes the penis shaft directly under the coronal sulcus
Inner Ring

- Has two rounded sides and two flat sides
- Important for device placement and removal
- During placement, the rounded sides are aligned to the two lateral sides of the penis
- The flat sides are at the dorsum and ventral sides of the penis
- Has a groove where the elastic ring sits and compresses the foreskin
Placement Ring

- Has four legs
- Each leg has a notch at the proximal end
- Legs allow easy release of the elastic band onto the foreskin during placement
- Notches help hold elastic band during the placement
Elastic Ring and Verification Thread

- The elastic ring is made of rubber and compresses the foreskin against the inner ring.
- The verification thread is used to pull out the elastic ring if there is a need to correct it soon after placement is done.
Sizing Plate (Single Use)

- Used to find the size of the device that will fit into the glans
- Five sizes of the device available
PrePex Packaging
Five PrePex Sizes:
A (smallest), B, C, D, E (largest)
Public Health Benefits of PrePex Device Scale-Up

- **Safe**: World Health Organization pre-qualified
- **Simple**: Easy to apply the device (expertise)
- **Scalable**: Shorter procedure duration
- **No Sterility**: *Strict* sterility not required during placement
- **Cost-Effective**: Affordable in terms of cost
- **Acceptable**: High client satisfaction and good cosmetic outcome
Key Patient Benefits

- No needles
- No loss of blood
- Various sizes to minimize discomfort during involuntary erections
- Back to daily routine immediately after procedure
- Aesthetic cosmetic results (no stitches/sutures)
- Minimal discomfort
Mechanism of Action

- The device works by compressing the foreskin with two rings to block circulation distally.
- Blood flow is thus cut off to the part of the foreskin in front of the position where the device is placed.
- The device is worn by the client for 7 days, during which time the foreskin becomes necrotic.
- The dead foreskin is then cut off on Day 7, and the device is removed.
Necrotic Foreskin on Day 7 After Placement
Summary

- PrePex is a simple device that can accelerate the scale-up of VMMC.
- A large number of men can be reached in a short time period.
- The device is made up of different parts, each of which serves a special purpose in completing the PrePex circumcision.
- PrePex causes foreskin necrosis through compression of the foreskin with two rings.
Thank you!