

# Evaluating a Social Network-Based Distribution Model for HIV Self-Testing Uptake Among Men Who Have Sex with Men in Dakar: A Methodology for the Senegalese Context

Mamadou Diouf<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Cheikh Anta Diop University (UCAD), Dakar

**Published:** 13 August 2010 | **Received:** 13 June 2010 | **Accepted:** 29 July 2010

**Correspondence:** [mdiouf@aol.com](mailto:mdiouf@aol.com)

**DOI:** [10.5281/zenodo.18529558](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18529558)

## Author notes

*Mamadou Diouf is affiliated with Cheikh Anta Diop University (UCAD), Dakar and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.*

## Abstract

Men who have sex with men (MSM) in Senegal face barriers to conventional HIV testing due to stigma and criminalisation. HIV self-testing (HIVST) offers a confidential alternative, but context-appropriate distribution models for this key population are required. This methodology article details the design for evaluating a social network-based distribution model to increase HIVST uptake among MSM in Dakar. The primary objective is to measure the change in HIVST uptake following the intervention. The study employs a pre-post intervention design. Peer educators from the MSM community are trained to distribute HIVST kits within their social networks. A baseline survey estimates existing HIVST uptake. After a defined distribution period, an endpoint survey measures the primary outcome of HIVST uptake. Secondary outcomes include distribution chain characteristics and barriers to use. Mixed methods, incorporating surveys and in-depth interviews, capture quantitative and qualitative data. As a methodology article, this paper presents no empirical results. The planned analysis will quantify the change in HIVST uptake and explore themes related to the feasibility and social dynamics of the distribution model within the Senegalese context. This methodology provides a structured, culturally adapted approach to assess a community-led strategy for improving HIVST access among a hard-to-reach population in a stigmatising legal environment. Researchers implementing similar interventions in comparable contexts should consider this methodological framework, emphasising community engagement and adaptive implementation to navigate social and legal challenges. HIV self-testing, men who have sex with men, social network, peer distribution, methodology, Senegal, key populations This article contributes a detailed methodological framework for evaluating a peer-led HIVST distribution model tailored to the specific socio-legal context of Senegal.

**Keywords:** *HIV self-testing, men who have sex with men, social network analysis, West Africa, implementation research, peer-led intervention, key populations*

## ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

This is an abstract-only publication. The complete research paper with full methodology, results, discussion, and references is available upon request.

✉ **REQUEST FULL PAPER**

**Email:** [info@parj.africa](mailto:info@parj.africa)

Request your copy of the full paper today!

## SUBMIT YOUR RESEARCH

**Are you a researcher in Africa? We welcome your submissions!**

Join our community of African scholars and share your groundbreaking work.

**Submit at:** [app.parj.africa](http://app.parj.africa)



Scan to visit [app.parj.africa](http://app.parj.africa)

**Open Access Scholarship from PARJ**

Empowering African Research | Advancing Global Knowledge