

## FROM VMMC TO BROADER MEN & BOYS STRATEGIES

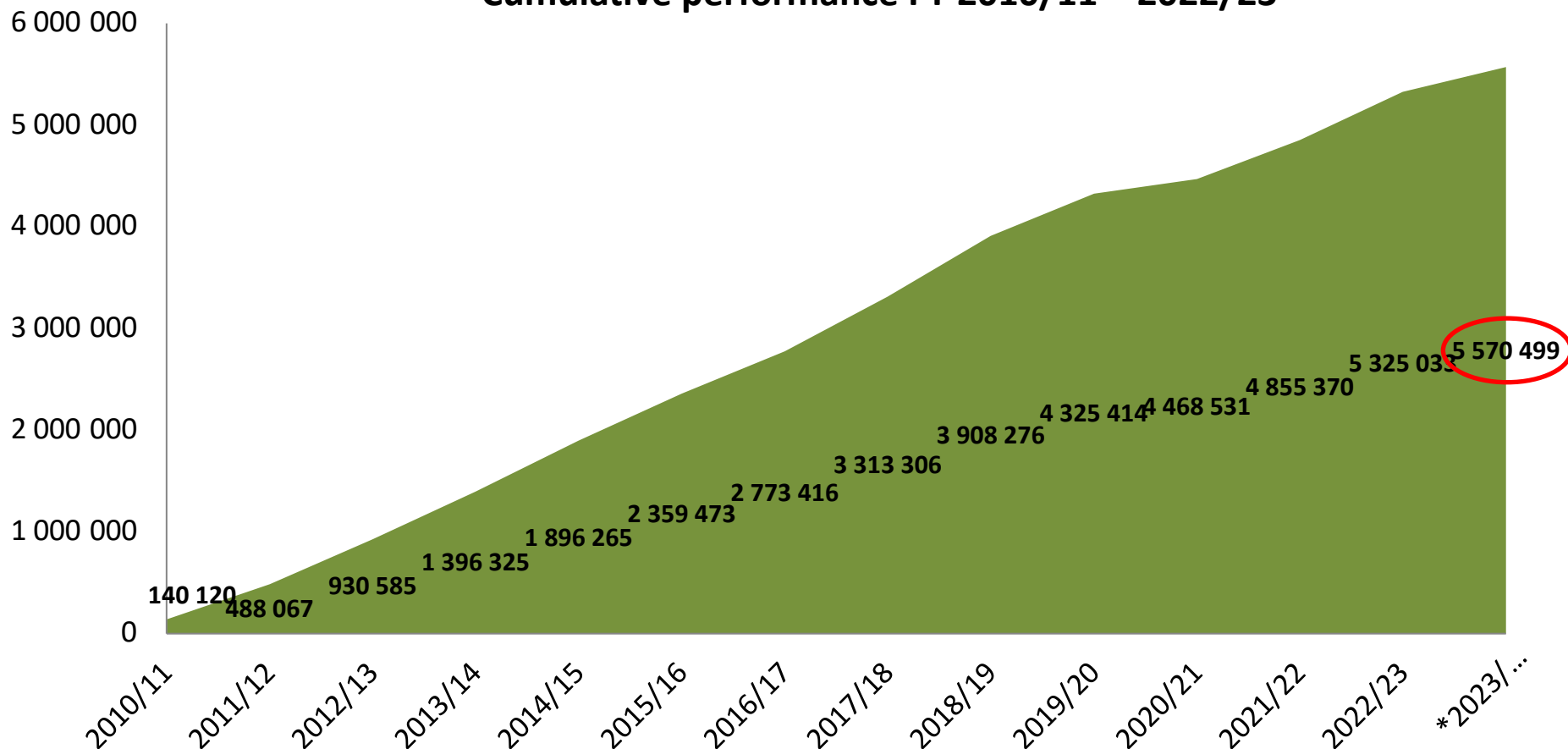
An example of how the WHO Men's  
Health Framework can be  
operationalised

*D. Loykissoonlal, National  
Department of Health, South Africa  
8<sup>th</sup> December 2023*

# South Africa has leveraged the VMMC programme as an entry point towards comprehensive men's health services



Cumulative performance FY 2010/11 – 2022/23



health

Department:  
Health  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Source: DHIS

\*Only Q1 and Q2 FY 2023/24



# Rationale for men's health



Men generally show **poor health seeking behaviors and less likely to engage with health services** across the continuum of care cascade.

The SA VMMC programme provided **insight on the willingness of men to access healthcare**, voluntarily and highlighted missed opportunities to **provide comprehensive care to the men** for essential services not offered within VMMC.

*Source: The South African National Integrated Men's Health Strategy 2020-2025*



health

Department:  
Health  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# **SOUTH AFRICAN INTEGRATED MEN'S HEALTH STRATEGY**



**health**

Department:  
Health  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# Background: Strategy Development

- The Strategy was developed to align with the:
  - findings from the Landscape analysis on men's health service (2019)
  - existing South African health policies and strategies



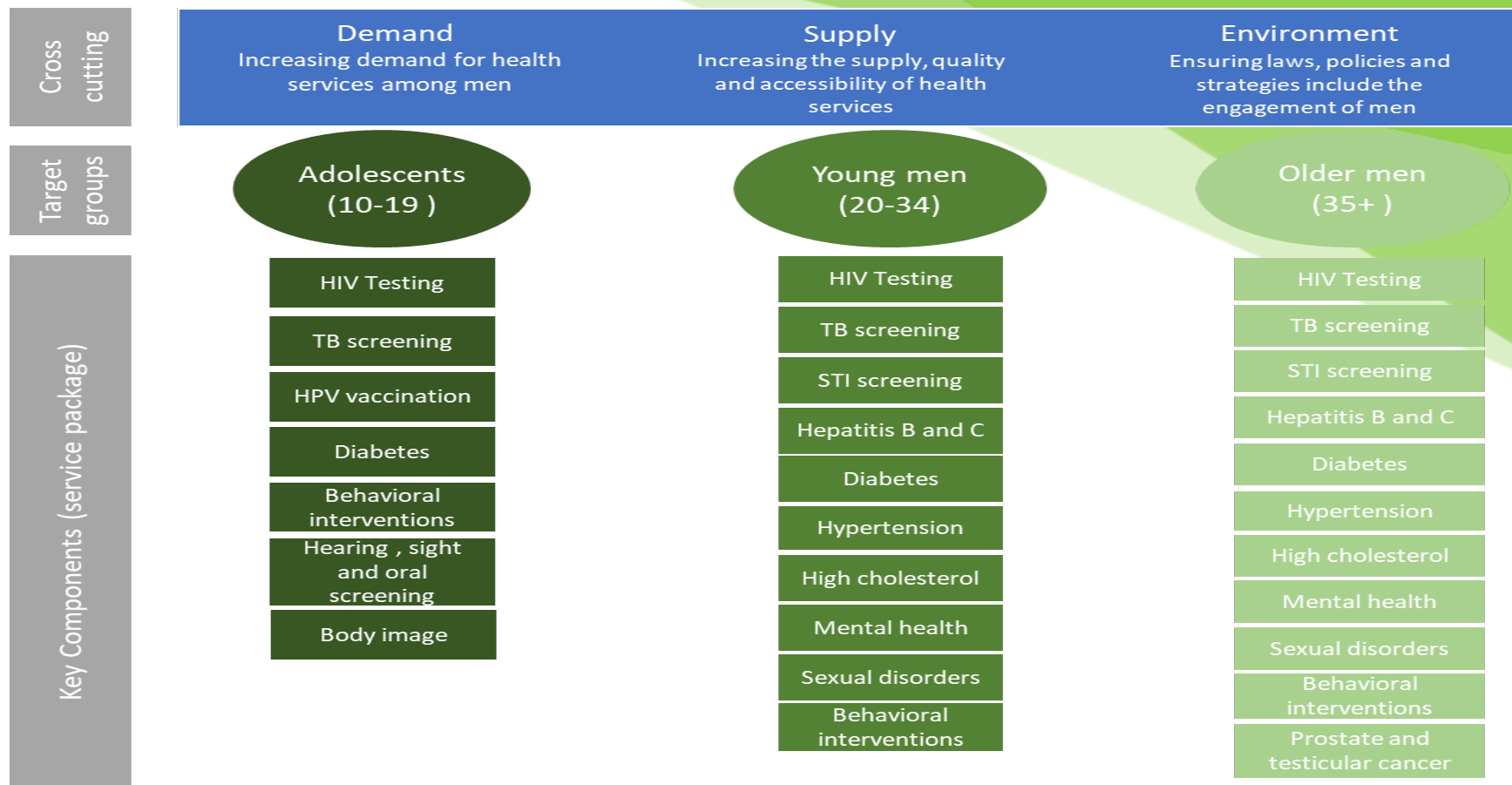
health

Department:  
Health  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# SERVICE PACKAGES

Drive improvement in the overall health and wellbeing of all South African males



health

Department:  
Health  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# Men's Health Pilot Programme KZN Province

- Men's health programme was implemented in 29 facilities
- The programme review was conducted at 8 sites across 3 districts
- Period under review was October 2022 to February 2023
- The aim of the review was to provide an opportunity for early course corrections

## Objectives

- To derive **lessons to inform scale-up** of the programme to other sites within the province and expansion nationally
- To identify the various **service delivery models** for men's health programme
- To establish an **efficient approach to integrating** of men's health into PHC
- To establish how the programme can **leverage existing VMMC systems and resources**

# Summary of findings

---

- **Significant increase** in men accessing health care with introduction of Men's health programme
- **Higher screening rates** for prostate cancer, sexual health, mental health and substance abuse for men
- Services were differentiated for various sub-populations, **increasing access**
- **STI treatment remains the most sought-after** service by men – highlighting the need to identify high risk populations and provide high impact HIV prevention services
- **Demand for sexual reproductive services and screening** increased at sites that only had male service providers



# Lessons Learnt

---

- A significant number of **men prefer to be seen by male HCW**
- Men are willing to come through for men's health services
- Men need **differentiated services** to increase access
- Models of care that are **patient-centered** allow easy access to care for more sub-populations of men
- Availability of high quality **data for decision making**
- Need for **regular review** of data collection tools
- **Use of existing resources and systems** facilitated implementation

# KEY NEXT STEPS



1. Migration from MMC towards Men's Health
  - Finalisation of Men's health guidelines
2. Roll out of men's health services nationally

# Thank you

Mr. D. Loykissoonal  
Dayanund.Loykissoonal@health.gov.za