

Implementation of a Data Review Intervention to Mitigate Data Leakages in the South African VMMC Programme: A Case study on Gert Sibande district

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In South Africa, Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC) services are often provided by external partners & contracted entities. For the Department of Health (DoH) to monitor the programme, service providers are expected to submit their data to the District Health Information System (DHIS) via hubs based in facilities and sub-districts. Unfortunately, the data system is prone to leakages during this process.

Non-governmental VMMC service providers record client data & submit it to various platforms

MMC SUSTAIN, the technical assistance partner facilitating the data reviews

We fixed a (data) leak in a public-private service delivery setting. Here's how.

Department of Health Information System monitoring the VMMC programme



Our toolkit

- 1 Determine data variance = collect service delivery partner data via an Excel-based tool + extract government database reported data
- 2 Jointly review & verify data between service providers & government officials
- 3 Capture outstanding data (source documents from service providers) onto the government database

VMMC partner data 'leak' between the operation site & the Health Info System

This data and case is based on Gert Sibande district, Mpumalanga, South Africa between June and October 2021.

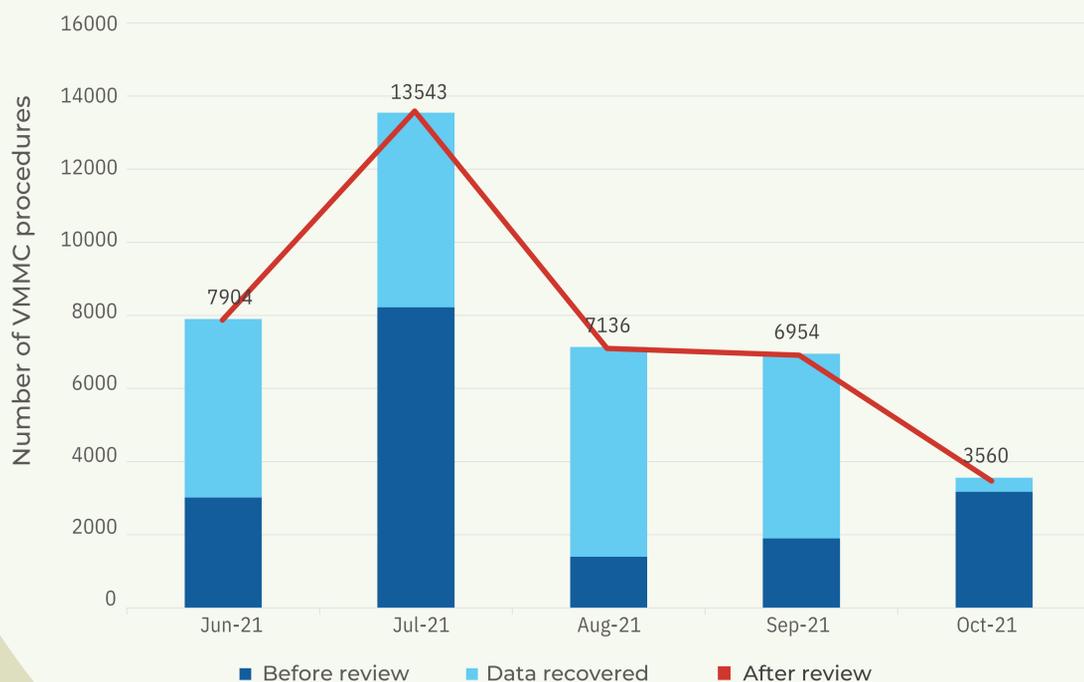
The results

The monthly data review had a significant impact on the completeness and validity of VMMC programme data reported in the DHIS for this district: **more than 21,000 circumcisions were recovered** over the review period. It also resulted in improved adherence to VMMC data management guidelines by service providers.

Maintenance tip

Uphold monthly data verification meetings. It is important to ensure stakeholders lead the implementation of interventions - this creates ownership and sustainability of the VMMC programme.

VMMC data before & after data reviews



Scan this to read the full report

About MMC SUSTAIN MMC SUSTAIN is a technical assistance programme that empowers government officials to lead a locally coordinated and implemented MMC programme in eight high HIV-burden South African districts in Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, and Mpumalanga. The aim of this programme is to *build resilient local systems that successfully plan, effectively manage, and efficiently execute the MMC programme at scale.*

