Engaging the Community in Microbicide Research: a Network Perspective

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Discussion Points

- Strategies for engaging community representatives in microbicide research:
 - Protocol development and beyond
 - Capacity building
 - Media training
 - Community-Researcher partnerships



Engagement in protocol development and throughout the research process

 Should begin following completion of the first draft of the protocol

 Enables understanding, accurate information dissemination, and well thought out recommendations



Engagement in Capacity Building

"How to Review and Provide Feedback About: The Schema, Informed Consent Documents and Other Elements of the Protocol"



Engagement in Media Training

Possible inclusion of 2-3 community representatives

 Will enriched messages, increase community awareness, and improve support for MTN research



Engagement in Community-Researcher Partnerships

- Facilitate an enhanced scientific agenda
- Require consistent inclusion
- Result in prepared, knowledgeable and effective advocates



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Thank you.

