

Cost-effectiveness of free HIV voluntary counseling and testing through a community-based AIDS service organization in Northern Tanzania

Deskripsi Lengkap: <https://lib.fkm.ui.ac.id/detail.jsp?id=81119&lokasi=lokal>

Abstrak

Objectives: We evaluated the cost-effectiveness of fee-based and free testing strategies at an HIV voluntary counseling and testing (VCT) program integrated into a community-based AIDS service organization in Moshi, Tanzania.

Methods: We waived the usual fee schedule during a 2-week free, advertised VCT campaign; analyzed the number of clients testing per day during prefree, free, and postfree testing periods; and estimated the cost-effectiveness of limited and sustained free testing strategies.

Results: The number of clients testing per day increased from 4.1 during the prefree testing interval to 15.0 during the free testing campaign ($P < .0001$) and remained significantly increased at 7.1 ($P < .0001$) after resumption of the standard fees. HIV seroprevalence (16.7%) and risk behaviors were unchanged over these intervals. Modeled over 1 year, the costs per infection averted with the standard fee schedule, with a 2-week free VCT campaign, and with sustained free VCT year-round were \$170, \$105, and \$92, respectively, and the costs per disability-adjusted life year gained were \$8.72, \$5.40, and \$4.72, respectively.

Conclusions: The provision of free VCT enhances both the number of clients testing per day and its cost-effectiveness in resource-limited settings.