



**INFORMED CONSENT AGES 18+:**

**ONLINE DISCUSSION**

**Sponsor / Study Title:** **US NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH:** Capitalizing on the power of the Internet to survey Ugandan LGBT.

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**Background / Purpose**

People who are LGBT are often left out of health research in Eastern Africa. To begin addressing this gap, we are developing an online, anonymous survey for adults across Eastern Africa who identify as LGBT. This research study is sponsored by the United States National Institutes of Health and is being implemented by the Center for Innovative Public Health Research in the US.

**Procedures**

You are invited to answer questions that will help us design a better health survey for LGBT people in East Africa. If you choose to take part, you will use a device (like a mobile phone or computer) to answer questions on our website. We will ask for your thoughts related to different topics we would like to include in the survey. For example, we might ask about your experiences staying safe and making healthy sexual decisions. We also might ask you what key questions that you think need to be included in a survey about LGBT sexual health.

**Risks and Discomforts**

It is possible that your privacy will be broken. For example, if someone sees your computer or mobile phone screen, this person may see that you are answering questions about issues related to your sexual and gender identity - which may reveal that you identify as LGBT. It is very important that you use a computer or phone that is in a private place. If you do not have a safe and private space, taking part in this research may not be a good idea for you.

To protect your privacy, we will not collect your name or contact information. We will also ask you and other participants to not share anything that we discuss to people outside of the study. We cannot guarantee that others will not share what is discussed.

It also is possible that a question we ask might make you feel uncomfortable. If this happens, you can skip the question or stop participating completely.

## Benefits

We do not know if you will benefit from being part of the study, but your answers are important: Your participation will really help us design a better survey, which will benefit LGBT Africans like you in the future.

## Confidentiality

We will keep a copy of your answers after the research activity ends so that we can look at them later. Only researchers involved in this study will be able to see your answers. Your identity will not be associated with any reports or articles we publish. We will not tell anyone else outside of the research team what you say in the online discussion.

The sponsor, the sponsor's representatives, the United States Department of Health and Human Services (U.S. DHHS), and Chesapeake IRB may have access to the study data.

To help us protect your privacy, we have obtained a Certificate of Confidentiality from the U.S. DHHS. This Certificate means that we can keep your information private even if we get a US court or US government order telling us to share your information. We will use the Certificate to try to refuse to give anyone, including a foreign government, information that will identify you, except when you tell us it is okay to do so.

## Rights of Refusal and Withdrawal

Providing answers to the research questions is your choice. If you decide not to participate, nothing bad will happen.

If you change your mind after you have started answering the questions and you decide that you no longer want to take part, you are free to stop.

## Questions and Contact Numbers

If you have any questions about the information that you have read or about the research study, please contact the Study Coordinator, Emilie Chen, by email at [Support@InnovativePublicHealth.org](mailto:Support@InnovativePublicHealth.org). You may also text or call her at 000 256 792 456090, which is a Ugandan phone number. Please note that your mobile phone provider will charge you accordingly. If you contact us, we will be sure to respond to you within 24 hours.

An IRB is a group of people who review research studies to protect the rights and safety of research participants. If you have any concerns about your rights in this research, you can contact the Study Subject Adviser at Chesapeake IRB in the U.S. by email at [adviser@chesapeakeirb.com](mailto:adviser@chesapeakeirb.com). Please reference the following number: Pro00013202.

If you would like a copy of this information, please click here to save this file to your device, or we can email it to you if you enter your email address here: [field]

Do you agree to participate in this study?

If no (do not consent to participate):

[new page] Thank you for your time. We respect your decision not to take part. To help us design future research activities for LGBT Africans, can you please tell me why you decided not to take part?

[text box to type answer]

If yes (consent to participate):

[new page – forwards to research questions]