

Emory-Nigeria Research Training Program Application (Long-Term)
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Uptake of HIV Counseling and Testing among HIV/TB co-infected Women facing Malnutrition in Conflict Situations: A Needs Assessment Survey of Internally Displaced Persons in South-East Nigeria

Protection of Human Subjects

1. Risks to Human Subjects

This study involves a cross-sectional survey in IDP camps across Anambra State, Nigeria, including 60-100 women aged 18 and above with confirmed HIV/TB co-infection and at risk of malnutrition. Data will be collected using an interviewer-administered questionnaire adapted from WHO tools. While there are no physical risks, participants may experience emotional discomfort discussing sensitive topics, with potential stigma from disclosing health status.

2. Adequacy of Protection Against Risks

Informed consent will be obtained privately before participation. Research staff, trained in ethical standards and fluent in the local language, will provide study details, risks, and benefits. Data will be anonymized, with identifiable information securely stored and access restricted to authorized personnel. Participants in distress will be referred to counseling services. Additional protections will be in place for pregnant women, following HHS regulations.

3. Potential Benefits of the Proposed Research to Research Participants and Others

Participants will benefit from increased awareness of HIV and access to information on testing sites and preventive measures. The study will provide valuable data to inform public health interventions, potentially leading to improved HIV prevention and care services in conflict-affected regions. The potential benefits of increased awareness and improved health services outweigh the minimal risks associated with participation.

4. Importance of the Knowledge to be Gained

The research will fill a critical gap in understanding the uptake of HCT services among women in IDP camps, contributing to the development of targeted interventions and policies to reduce HIV transmission and improve health outcomes in conflict-affected regions. The minimal risks are justified by the importance of gaining knowledge that could significantly impact public health strategies and interventions for vulnerable populations.