

“Why Don’t They Come?” Health Facility Care-Seeking by Young People in Rural SW Uganda

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Objective

Identify barriers and facilitators to facility care access by young people for sexual reproductive health (SRH) in Bushenyi and Rubirizi districts prior to Healthy Adolescent and Young People (HAY!) implementation.

Methods

Focus group discussions and key informant interviews were conducted with:



Data were collected using a semi-structured interview guide, which comprised questions about AYs’ experiences seeking care from health facilities. Interviews and focus group discussions were transcribed, translated, then thematically coded. Main themes were divided into barriers and facilitators and mapped to the:

Capability, Opportunity, Motivation - Behaviour (COM-B) model

Theoretical Domains Framework (TDF)

Conclusions

Actions to promote respectful, timely, private, and confidential facility services may attract young people to seek facility care, which will be key for HAY! implementation and success.

Acknowledgement

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Results

Data collection involved 94 participants (59% female).

Key SRH care-seeking facilitators were: peer-sharing of positive facility experiences.

Main barriers included: fear of being seen, feeling shame, long wait times, disrespectful care, and lack of privacy/confidentiality at health facilities

