

B5. REASONS FOR UNPROTECTED SEX

USE WHEN YOU WANT TO EVALUATE:

Outcomes :

- ✓ Healthy behavior: increasing preventive practices among PLWHIV.

Intervention types:

- ✓ Skill building sessions to increase capacity to engage in risk reduction behaviors
- ✓ Outreach to priority populations to increase their capacity to engage in risk reductions behaviors

Worked well with these populations:

- ✓ MSM
- ✓ People diagnosed with HIV

Interventions for:

- ✓ HIV

DESCRIPTION

Description: This short questionnaire assesses reasons for unprotected sex after an HIV diagnosis; it can be seen as the flip side of the protective behaviours measured in other tools.

WHY THIS TOOL MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR COMMUNITY-BASED INTERVENTIONS

- ✓ This tool can be used to identify unhealthy behavior, or situations that lead to unhealthy behaviors, as a complement to measures of protective behavior for transmission.
- ✓ Suitable for before and after testing of a program's effects.
- ✓ Short and easily completed.
- ✓ Could easily be programmed to be given electronically.

Developed in:

- ✓ English

ADMINISTRATION, DESIGN, SCORING and ANALYSIS CONSIDERATIONS

ADMINISTRATION

- This questionnaire or interview questions should take less than 5 minutes each time.
- Tell participants why you are using the questionnaire, being clear that it is to evaluate the intervention to help make it better, and not them.
- Participation should be voluntary, so tell participants that it is ok if they do not complete the questionnaire, and assure participants that there are no negative consequences if they don't want to complete it. Give them a way to do something else at the same so that the confidentiality of this decision is protected. (For further information on ethical considerations in carrying out evaluations, see [Ethics Resources](#))
- If used in a group setting, ensure that people feel safe and that the space is confidential; no one can see their answers (can see their screen or papers), and put completed questionnaires into a sealed envelope.

DESIGN OPTIONS

Measuring before and after intervention (this is the recommended option for this because it measures actual change. Measuring only at the end of the intervention is not recommended because people's memories are not reliable for this type of behavior over a long period.)

1. **WHEN TO USE:** Have the questionnaires filled out before the intervention or at the very beginning of it, and again after, as close to the end as possible (often the very last session is not suitable because it may be a celebration, or have low attendance).
2. **LINKING RESULTS:** Include a way to match the same person's pre and post questionnaires while protecting confidentiality, for example using a [password](#) or unique identifier that respondents generate and remember.
3. **SCORING:** add up the total number of people that checked each reason.
4. **ANALYSIS:** Compare the pre and post totals for each reason, looking for improvements, which means there are less reasons checked off. Also note how many responses remained the same and how many had more reasons checked off.

B5. Reasons for unprotected sex

In the last three months, have you had sex without using a condom?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (answer next questions) <input type="checkbox"/> No (end)
What were the reasons that you had sex without using a condom? check all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> A condom wasn't available <input type="checkbox"/> A condom was available, but I didn't want to use one. <input type="checkbox"/> A condom was available, but my partner didn't want to use one <input type="checkbox"/> It was uncomfortable <input type="checkbox"/> It ruined the mood <input type="checkbox"/> I wanted to share everything with my partner <input type="checkbox"/> Anal contact is not a risk <input type="checkbox"/> Oral contact is not a risk <input type="checkbox"/> My viral load is low <input type="checkbox"/> I am taking medication <input type="checkbox"/> I was being paid for sex <input type="checkbox"/> I was paying for sex

Source: Adapted from: Camoni, L., Conte, I., Regine, V., Colucci, A., Chiriotto, M., Vullo, V., . . . Suligo, B. (2011). **Sexual behaviour reported by a sample of Italian MSM before and after HIV diagnosis.** *Annali Dell'Istituto Superiore Di Sanita* , 47(2), 214-219.; and the **Checking in Survey**, <http://prismhealth.us/research/past/checking-in/> (a study of HIV behavioral risks conducted by Emory University).