



MALKERNS RAPID ASSESSMENT OF ADOLESCENT SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH (ASRHR)

JANUARY 2022



FACT SHEET

This fact sheet is a summary of the findings of the ASRHR Rapid Assessment undertaken in Malkerns as part of an eight-country study¹ from November 2019 to December 2020. The research aims to strengthen youth-led and focused efforts to promote ASRHR through gender and youth responsive local governance. Gender Links Eswatini conducted the study in 11 Centers of Excellence for Gender in Local Government.² In Malkerns, the study covered 3 clinics; 94 respondents: 73% young women and 27% young men (see table overleaf). This fact sheet should be read together with the Eswatini and the Southern Africa ASRHR Rapid Assessment research pamphlets. Key findings include:

Accessibility

- Nineteen percent of respondents reported being within 10 km of a clinic.
- A low percentage of responses said Swazi Can clinic opens after school.
- Eight percent of respondents said that the clinics open at weekends. This suggests that either there are differences in the way clinics operate, or youth lack of knowledge concerning their operating hours.
- Most respondents (87%) said that the clinic had a comfortable waiting area.
- All 3 clinics charged fees for their services.

Quality of care

- All respondents said clinics treated them with confidentiality and respect.
- Almost all respondents (90%) said clinics did not require their parents to be present.
- All (100%) of respondents said that health workers spent sufficient time with them.

- Ninety-two percent or higher said they received appropriate information in all 3 clinics.

Sexual and reproductive health services

- A mere 6% of respondents requested contraceptives. All who requested contraceptives received them. This is a very encouraging finding, as the provision of contraceptives to young people is key to ASRHR.
- Overall 12% of young women requested a pregnancy test and 100% received it - another encouraging indicator of ASRHR services. Twenty-two percent of the young women were pregnant at the time: a negative reflection on good access to contraceptives.
- None of the young women requested sanitary pads, possibly because Eswatini has no provision for free sanitary ware, thus respondents did not even request them.
- At 8%, the overall demand for male circumcision, which has been shown to reduce the spread of HIV and AIDS, is relatively low. However, all the male respondents that requested male circumcision, received the services.
- Overall 90% requested an HIV test and (100% of) who asked for this test received it.
- Only 4% of respondents requested an STI test. All those who requested STI tests received them.
- One percent of the respondents requested anti-retroviral drugs for HIV and AIDS and received them. ARVs are generally accessible in Eswatini.
- A very low percentage of respondents (16% overall) said health workers asked about their mental health. This is a concern, as ASRHR and mental health are closely linked.

¹ Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

² Ezulwini, Lavumisa, Malkerns, Mankayane, Manzini, Matsapha, Mbabane, Ngwenya, Nhlalango, Piggs Peak and Siteki.

FOR MORE INFORMATION go to:

<https://genderlinks.org.za/what-we-do/governance/local-action-for-voice-and-choice/>

Contact details: Gender Links Eswatini

Address: Sokhamlilo building, Ground floor,

Office #1 & 2, Dzeliwe Street,

Mbabane, Swaziland

Tel: +268 3402 0506



Indicator	Malkerns	Health Care Swazican Clinic	Phumelele Clinic	Salvation Army
Total sample	94	39	38	17
% female	73%	67%	74%	88%
% male	27%	33%	26%	12%
Logistic information on health facilities				
Health facility within 10km from your home %	19%	23%	24%	0%
The facility opens after school? %	9%	21%	0%	0%
The facility opens on weekends? %	8%	11%	8%	0%
The facility has a comfortable waiting and consultation area? %	87%	97%	71%	100%
Does the facility charge a fee? %	97%	92%	100%	100%
Average fee in USD	\$2	\$2	\$2	\$2
Quality of care				
Peer counsellors available %	4%	5%	5%	0%
Young people treated with respect %	97%	100%	92%	100%
Young people are treated without parent present %	90%	97%	77%	100%
Young people have privacy %	100%	100%	100%	100%
Young people have confidentiality %	100%	100%	100%	100%
Health workers spend sufficient time with young people %	100%	100%	100%	100%
Young people receive appropriate information %	97%	92%	100%	100%
Sexual and reproductive health services (%)				
Maternal health				
% Young people who requested contraceptives	6%	8%	8%	
% Young people who requested contraceptives that received contraceptives	100%	100%	100%	0%
% Young women who requested a pregnancy test	12%	16%	11%	7%
% Young women who received a pregnancy test	100%	100%	100%	100%
% Young women who were pregnant	22%	20%	32%	7%
% pregnant young women who requested ante-natal check-up	67%	60%	78%	0%
% pregnant young women who received ante-natal check-up	100%	100%	100%	
% pregnant women who requested prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT)	20%	0%	33%	0%
% pregnant women who requested PMTCT that received PMTCT	67%		67%	
% Young women who requested post-natal care	24%	18%	31%	0%
% Young women who requested post natal care who received post-natal care	33%	0%	50%	
% Young women who requested help with breast feeding	2%	4%	0%	0%
% Young women who requested that received help with breast feeding	100%	100%		
Menstrual health				
% Young women who requested pads	0%	0%	0%	0%
HIV and AIDS and STI				
% Young men who requested male circumcision	8%	8%	10%	0%
% of those who requested male circumcision received an appointment	100%	100%	100%	
% youth who requested PREP	7%	15%	0%	0%
% youth who received PREP	100%	100%		
% who requested post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)	7%	15%	0%	0%
% of those who requested who received PEP	100%	100%		
% who requested HIV test	90%	92%	84%	100%
% of those who requested who received HIV test	100%	100%	100%	100%
% who requested STI test	4%	11%	0%	0%
% who requested who received STI test	100%	100%		
% who requested anti-retrovirals (ARVs)	1%	0%	3%	0%
% who requested who received ARVs	100%		100%	
% who said Health worker asked about mental health	16%	26%	13%	0%