Barriers and Enablers to Use Female Condom: Experiences of Female Sex Workers in Bali, Indonesia

Sari KAK\textsuperscript{1,3}; Wulandari NLPL\textsuperscript{1,3}; Lubis DSM\textsuperscript{1,3}, Yap L\textsuperscript{2}

\textsuperscript{1}Faculty of Medicine, Udayana University, Bali, Indonesia; \textsuperscript{2}Kirby Institute, The University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia; \textsuperscript{3}Kerti Praja Foundation, Bali, Indonesia

**Background:**
- Heterosexual transmission serves as the main mode of HIV transmission in Bali.
- The use of male condom (MC) is constantly low.
- Female condom (FC) could be one of the alternatives with the same effectivity as MC.
- Although FC has been promoted to female sex workers (FSWs), the use is still very low.

**Objective:**
To explore the barriers and enablers to use FC among FSWs in Bali.

**Methods:**
- A qualitative study conducted from June to September 2012 in Bali.
- Four focus group discussions conducted with FSWs.
- Two FSWs who use FC routinely were interviewed.
- Data analyzed thematically.

**Results:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barriers</th>
<th>Enablers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Difficulties in using FC</td>
<td>Personal training to use FC for FSWs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The inner ring of FC frequently causes pain</td>
<td>Preference of FSWs to use FC with foam dots because it is more comfortable and easier to use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FC that available for free from the government is only the ring type</td>
<td>Accessibility of FC with foam dots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clients’ refusal due to unfamiliarity with FC</td>
<td>FC promotion to clients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FSWs have lower bargaining power than clients</td>
<td>Willingness of FSWs to use any type of FC if their clients ask or help them to</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Conclusion:**
- Difficulties in using FC, clients’ refusal and the limited accessibility of FC with foam dots become the barriers of FC use.
- Promotion to clients and personal training for FSWs are important.
- Increasing the accessibility of FC with foam dots is recommended because it is preferred by FSWs than the one with inner ring.

The study is funded by Kirby Institute, UNSW, Australia