**Title: Measuring wellbeing using the Women’s Capabilities Index amongst women involved in high-risk sexual behaviour in Kampala, Uganda,**

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There is a growing debate on the inadequacy of standard outcome measures for evaluating the broad impacts of health promotion interventions on people’s lives.

This study is part of a project that aims at adapting the Women’s Capabilities Index to a different context (Uganda), in order to produce a multidimensional capabilities measure for use in low- and middle-income countries. The process of adaptation of the measure includes an explorative phase for assessing the extent to which the list of capabilities generated for the Women’s Capabilities Index is valid in a different low-income setting (Uganda) and therefore with the scope to be more widely applicable. The list of capabilities in the WCI includes: physical strength, inner wellbeing, household wellbeing, community relations, and economic security. Given the similarities with other lists of dimensions, it is expected that the list of capabilities for women in Uganda will have a significant degree of overlap with the list generated for women in Malawi. What is likely to change is the identification of the indicators for measuring the capabilities. The specific objective of this study is to develop a list of capabilities for the female population suitable for use in a low-income setting, using a participatory approach.

To be consistent with Sen’s theory, the selection of capabilities was conducted in a participatory manner using focus group discussions. The focus group discussions have two objectives: a) to explore locally relevant concepts of quality of life, dimensions of wellbeing, valuable beings and doings; and b) to explore the value and rank of the different concepts. We ran 10 focus groups, with 10 – 12 participants each. The participants are women attending the MRC Good Health for Women clinic in Mengo, Kampala. Women minor of age were excluded. Two-stage randomised cluster sampling was used to select participants. Data collection took place from October to December 2017.

Analysis is currently under way and will be completed by December 2018. Findings will be elicited based on manual framework analysis. Framework analysis uses a thematic approach, but allows themes to develop both from the research questions and from the narratives of the discussions. There is still a lot of work that needs to be done in order to use wellbeing measures in policy analysis. Some advances are taking place in the UK, but very little in low-income countries, where there is a great need for using comprehensive measure of progress, since development interventions in particular are likely to affect several aspects of people’s lives. The wellbeing measure developed and tested in Uganda will be ready to be used alongside trials for the evaluation of public interventions. This measure will be able to provide a broader picture of the effects of complex interventions such as mental health programmes, which are not easily captured with standard evaluation techniques. While the measure is intended to support evaluators in low-income countries, the methodology developed in this study will also be of interest for researchers and policy makers in middle and high-income countries since it will contribute to the global debate on how to measure progress in society.

Key terms: Capabilities, Multidimensional, Index, qualitative methods, focus group discussion, participatory method, women, Uganda, low-income