

**“Enhancing Interprofessional
Collaboration and Learning for
Strengthening Primary Health Care”**

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TUFH 2021 ABSTRACTS

Title	INITIAL REACTIONS AND MEANING OF EXPERIENCES OF MEN FOLLOWING HETEROSEXUAL INTIMATE PARTNERS DISCLOSURE OF HIV SEROPOSITIVE STATUS: A QUALITATIVE STUDY
Type	Oral Presentation <i>Innovative Ways for Community Mobilization and Engagement of Stakeholders</i>
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Abstract N ^o	TUFH558
Content	<p>Background: HIV/AIDS is a global problem and the infection rates in some countries is very high including Ghana. Among its reported risks, little focus has been given to the immediate experiences and reactions of men who perpetrate violence following the disclosure of their HIV positive partners' statuses. Objective: We explore the immediate experiences and reactions of men following the disclosure of intimate partners' HIV seropositive status as a risk for the perpetration of IPV in Ghana. Methods: We conducted exploratory qualitative research involving male partners of HIV positive women. An interpretive phenomenological approach was used to collect and analyse data from the purposive sample of eighteen men whose partners had recently disclosed their seropositive HIV status. A semi-structured interview guide developed according to the objectives was used to collect data. Data collection and analysis were undertaken concurrently. Results: The findings of this study revealed five main themes. These themes include; Emotional and psychological experiences and reactions, Sexual experiences and reactions, Social experiences and reactions, Spiritual experiences and reactions as well as the meaning of experiences and reactions. Each of these themes has sub-themes. Conclusion: Male intimate partners go through varying experiences when their female partners disclose to them that they are HIV positive. Health professionals should be equipped with skills in counselling behaviour in order to help the HIV positive women as well as their partners following seropositive HIV status disclosure.</p>