

Reproductive Health

in the WHO African Region

Sexually Transmitted Infections and Human Immunodeficiency Virus

Prevention and Management of Sexually Transmitted Infections (stis)

RAISING AWARENESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate and educate for positive behavioural change
DETECT INFECTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look for STI signs and symptoms during medical examinations
MANAGE SYMPTOMATIC STICS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow syndromatic management guidelines for STI cases
COUNSEL PATIENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage client compliance with treatment Help to identify and treat the partner Foster preventive measures

WOMEN AND HIV INFECTION

- In 2008, **55%** of the 28,000,000 persons infected by HIV were women
 - 60% to 80% of HIV-positive** African women had been infected through sexual intercourse
 - Among youth, there are **4 infected women for every man infected** with HIV
 - Mother-to-child HIV transmission rate is estimated at **5% to 20%** where there is no intervention
- Programmes on prevention and management of HIV/AIDS must take into account the gender dimension.

Source: UNAIDS 2008

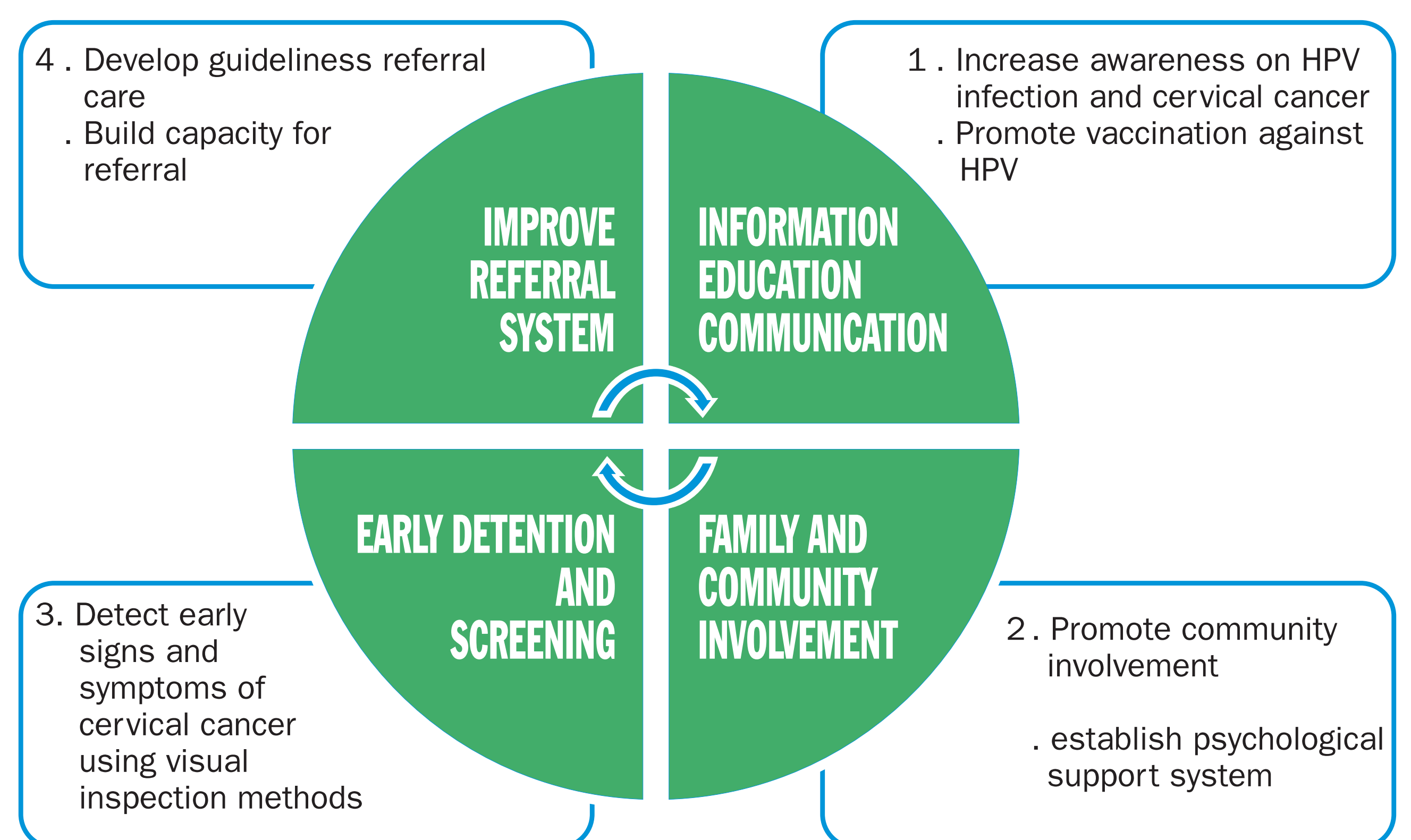
Prevention and Control of Cervical Cancer

Cervical cancer is:

- The commonest cancer in women in the African Region
- Known as a complication of sexually transmitted human papilloma virus (HPV) infection.

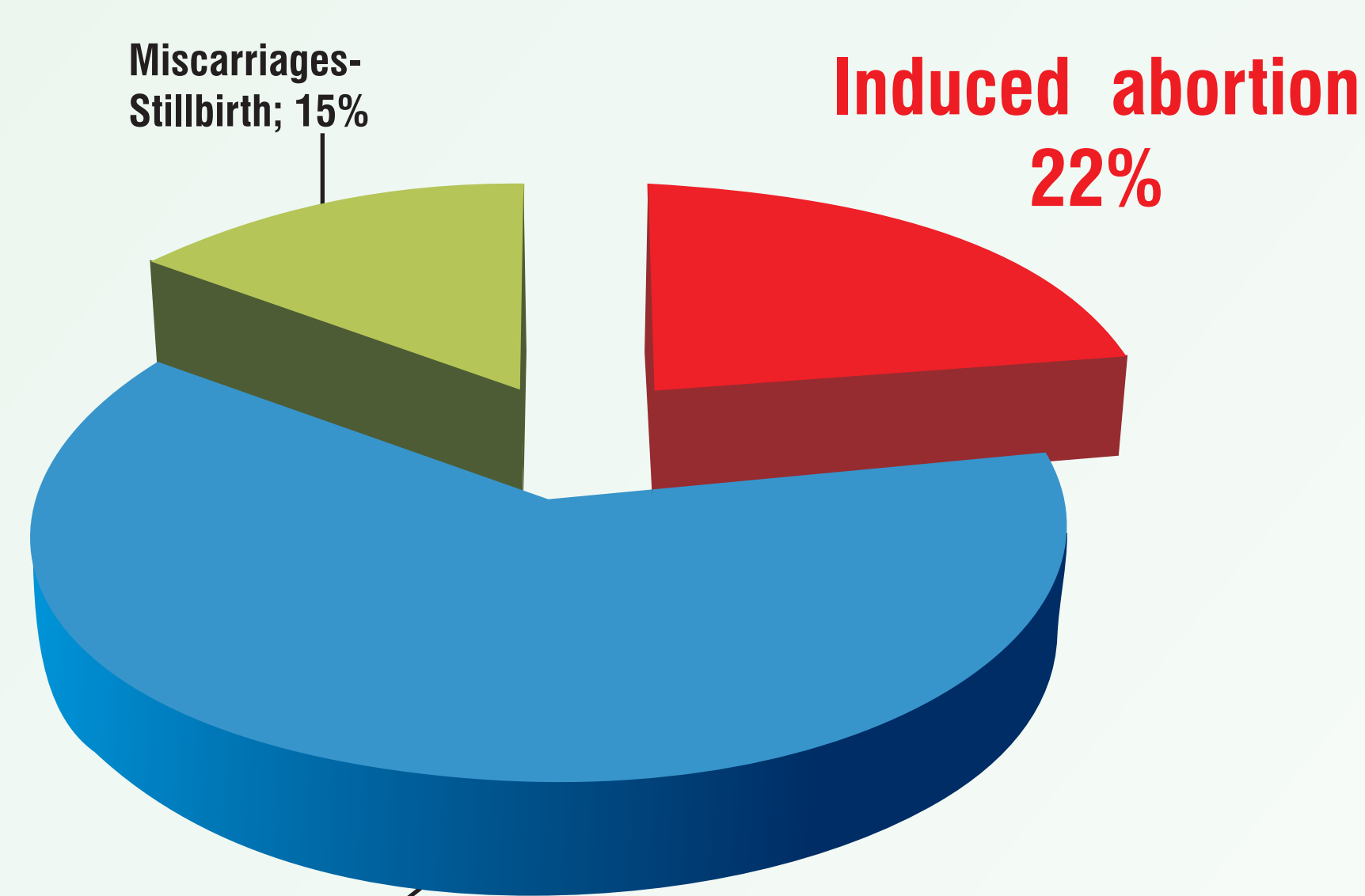


WHAT HEALTH CARE WORKERS CAN DO



Unsafe Abortion, Morbidity and Mortality

PREGNANCY OUTCOMES



Source: Unsafe abortion, WHO, 4th Ed. 2004

Situation in the African Region

- Every year in Africa, there are more than **4,000,000** unsafe abortions
- About **25%** of unsafe abortions are among teenagers **15 to 19 years old**: the highest in the world
- 10% to 50%** of girls and women who have unsafe abortions suffer complications that need medical attention

Source: Unsafe abortion, WHO, 4th Ed. 2004

Repositioning Family Planning in the African Region

In sub-Saharan Africa:

- the maternal mortality ratio is **900 per 100,000 live births**
- the total fertility rate is **5.5 children per woman**
- the contraceptive prevalence rate is **13%**

Effective family planning services are critical for reducing child mortality (MDG 4) and improving maternal health (MDG 5).



Repositioning Family Planning provides guidance on how to revitalize family planning to ensure a comprehensive approach to improving maternal, neonatal and child health in the context of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

