

A Project by THAMASO Zimbabwe in Partnership with Deaf People of Zimbabwe









ZIMBABWE

Sexual and Reproductive Health Sign Language Dictionary

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SAfAIDS 2012

ISBN No.: 978-0-7974-5350-0























FOREWORD

The HIV and AIDS Management and Support Organization (THAMASO-ZIMBABWE), in collaboration with the Disability HIV & AIDS Trust (DHAT), realized the existence of a knowledge gap on HIV and AIDS and sexual and reproduction health and rights (SRHR), among the deaf communities of Zimbabwe. The absence of signs for many of the technical terms related to HIV and SRHR has created serious disadvantages for hearing impaired people and increased their vulnerability to HIV, and made it difficult for them to claim their sexual and reproductive health and rights. Consequently, THAMASO-ZIMBABWE and DHAT decided to produce a Dictionary for people with hearing impairments that includes HIV and SRHR related signs.

The Dictionary includes an illustrated guide to signing and signing for individual letters, along with illustrations and descriptions for common words and for those new HIV/SRHR signs that have been developed, making it an invaluable reference for both those with hearing impairments and those without hearing challenges. The dictionary is suitable for use in educational institutions (schools, colleges and universities) as well as in health institutions such as hospitals, clinics and VCT centres. Counsellors and all staff working directly and indirectly in the HIV and SRHR sectors will find the dictionary most useful.

The production of the dictionary was sponsored by the Open Society for Southern Africa (OSISA) and the Southern Africa HIV and AIDS Information Dissemination Service (SAFAIDS). In respecting the adage "nothing for us without us" people with hearing impairments, drawn from all the provinces of Zimbabwe, developed this dictionary. We are proud of those who represented the deaf community in producing meaningful and helpful signs that will go a long way in helping those with hearing impairments and the nation at large to communicate on HIV and SRHR in a way that has previously been impossible.

THAMASO-ZIMBABWE and DHAT wish to express their gratitude to OSISA, SAFAIDS, the National AIDS Council, the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare, Ministry of Education, Sports, Arts and Culture, the National Council for the Hard of Hearing, the Zimbabwe National Association of the Deaf, the Zimbabwe Open University and the University of Zimbabwe, for their contributions.

Jacob Tivenga (Mr)

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National Director (THAMASO-ZIMBABWE)

PREFACE

Research has shown that, by virtue of their condition, people living with disabilities are at great risk of acquiring HIV. There is also empirical evidence which shows that among the disability community, those with sensory impairments - the deaf and blind - are more vulnerable than others, due to their special communication needs. The focus of this dictionary is on people who are deaf. These belong to a deaf culture which is characterised by the use of sign language. There has been a very wide gap in the provision of HIV and AIDS services, as well as information related to sexual and reproductive health rights, among this population. They are generally not considered in programming, not by design, but as a result of the lack of sign language articulation amongst the majority of service providers. It is against this background that THAMASO-Zimbabwe, in collaboration with The Disability and HIV Aids Trust (DHAT), decided to engage deaf persons and their organisations to design this dictionary that includes HIV and AIDS and sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) terminology, to bridge this gap. This development is in line with protocols calling for the creation of inclusive societies, such as the Salamanca Statement and Framework for Action (1994), The Jomtein Conference (1990) and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2008).

In coming up with the dictionary, the first assumption was that deaf persons have very limited vocabulary regarding HIV and SRHR. As such, there was need for consensus on the different signs being used in all Zimbabwe's provinces. Two workshops attended by deaf persons from each province were therefore conducted. SAFAIDS was very instrumental in the running of these workshops. Their major role was to disseminate HIV, AIDS and SRHR information to the deaf participants, to allow them to design informed signs. The workshops were very successful in standardising health-related sign language and SAFAIDS efforts here need to be highly appreciated. If the deaf members of society have no knowledge of the relevant terminology in sign language, they will not be able to enjoy the rights to which they are entitled. Thus, if they have access to standard sign language for HIV and SRH terminology, they will be better equipped to meet the different situations they come across in their everyday life.

THAMASO-Zimbabwe hopes that many Zimbabweans, whether deaf or not, HIV affected or infected, will find this dictionary useful and will develop a keen interest in leaning Sign Language. These include family and friends, colleagues at places of work, fellow learners in schools and tertiary institutions, as well as the general public with whom people who are deaf come into contact in their daily interactions. The country will become a much better place for the deaf to live in when teachers, medical personnel, law enforcement officers, staff in the judiciary, immigration and customs officers, staff in banking institutions, post offices, all local and central government workers and the general public, learn and start to use sign language whenever they have a deaf person to serve. In the meantime, it would be a good starting point for every workplace to have at least one Sign Language interpreter on standby for use when necessary.

May the publication and launch of this dictionary motivate employers to sponsor and grant study leave to their employees to learn sign language, as well as include the deaf amongst their staff. Our task is not yet finished, however, and it is our expectation to launch updated volumes from time-to-time, since health terminology is dynamic.

For all these reasons, the Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA) based in Johannesburg, South Africa - being a rights-based organisation - is pleased to have been associated with the production of this Sign Language Dictionary in partnership with SAFAIDS, DHAT, the National AIDS Council (NAC), Zimbabwe National Association of the Deaf (ZIMNAD), Zimbabwe Open University (ZOU), the Ministry of Education, Sports, Arts and Culture and the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare. To the European Union who were the funding partners, we are very thankful for their unwavering support. It is our hope that we will continue working together in developing the initiative to a higher level.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Without the immense input and assistance of various people and a great number of organisations, the production of this dictionary would not have been possible.

The HIV and SRHR Sign Language Dictionary is a product of The HIV and AIDS Management and Support Organization (THAMASO-Zimbabwe) in collaboration with the Disability and HIV and AIDS Trust (DHAT) with the help of Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA), the Southern Africa AIDS Information Dissemination Service (SAFAIDS), the National AIDS Council (NAC), the Zimbabwe Open University (ZOU), the Zimbabwe National Association for the Deaf (ZIMNAD), PROGRESSIO, EMERALD HILL SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF; Zimbabwe Open University, Ministry of Education, Sports, Arts and Culture; Ministry of Health and Child Welfare; University of Zimbabwe; Leonard Cheshire Trust; Nzeve Deaf Centre; Jairos Jiri – Gweru; King George School – Bulawayo and Henry Murray School for the Deaf – Masvingo.

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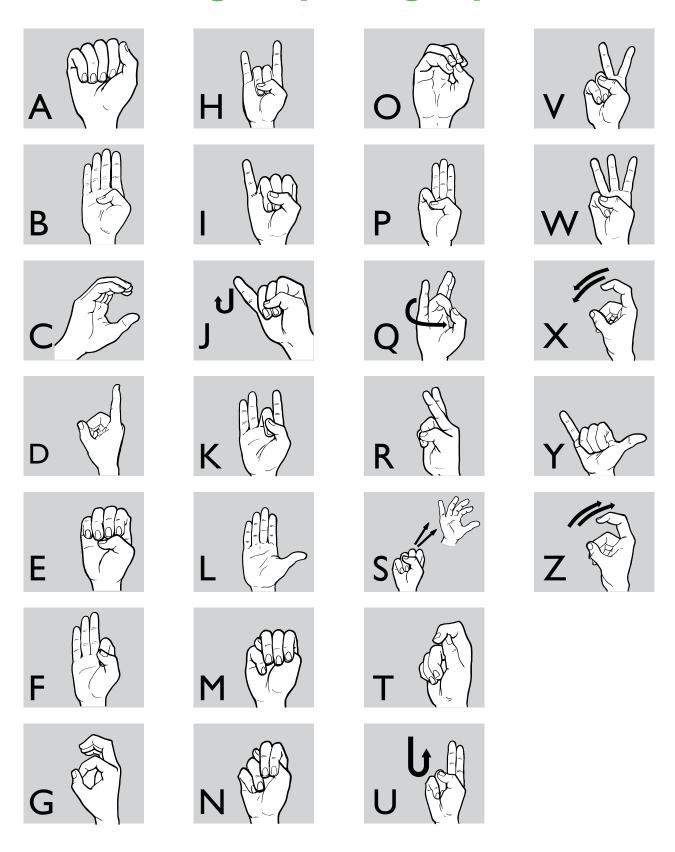
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The Finger Spelling Alphabet



Numbers



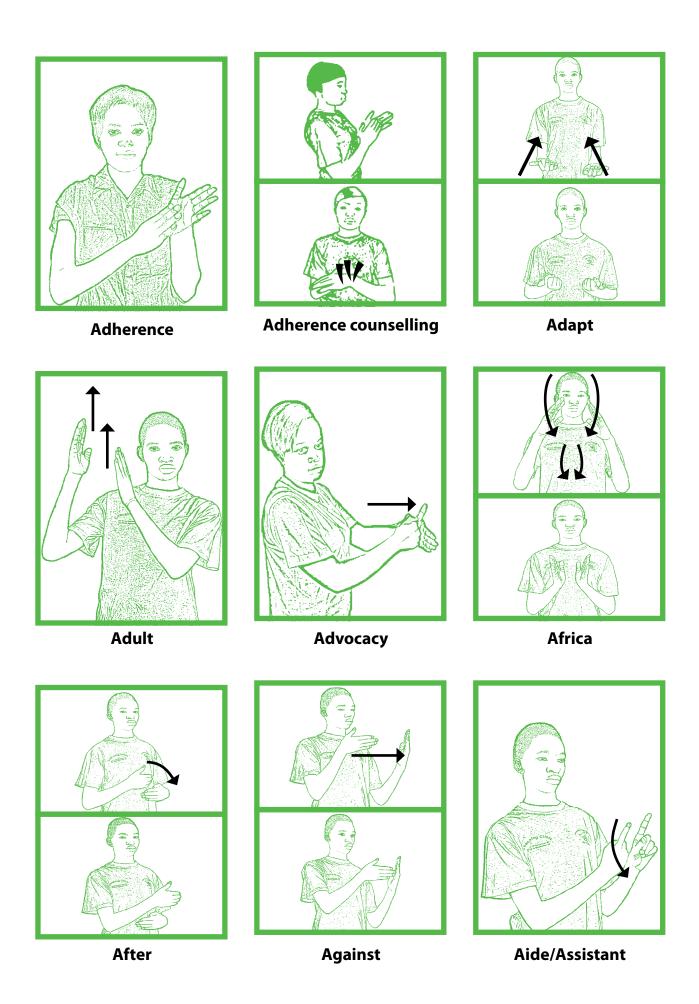
Guide to Hand Shapes

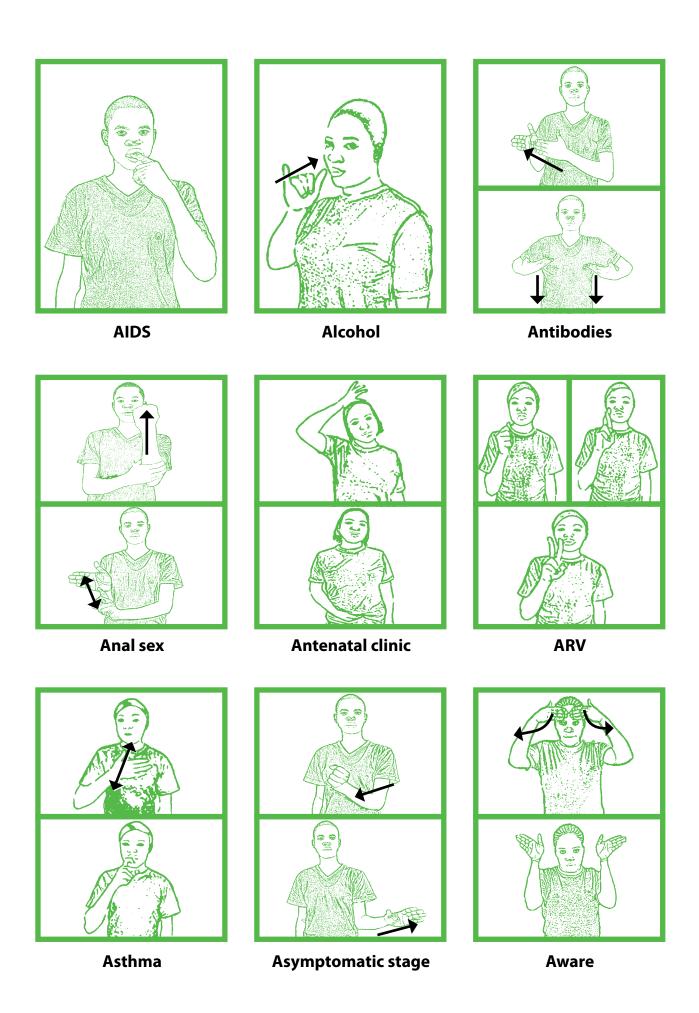
Fourth Middle Index Little Thumb	The Hand
(Tagar)	Sample letter hand shape A
	Sample number hand shape 1
	L hand shape
	B hand shape
	Bent B hand shape
	Curved hand
	Bent/Crooked V
2000	Claw hand
	Flat O hand

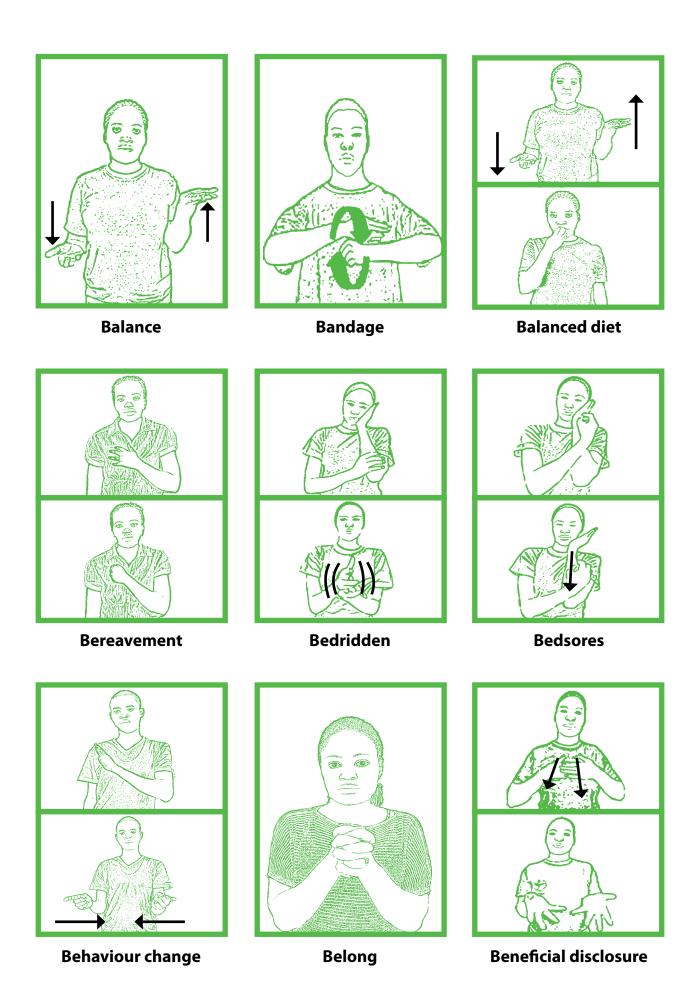
Guide to Arrows

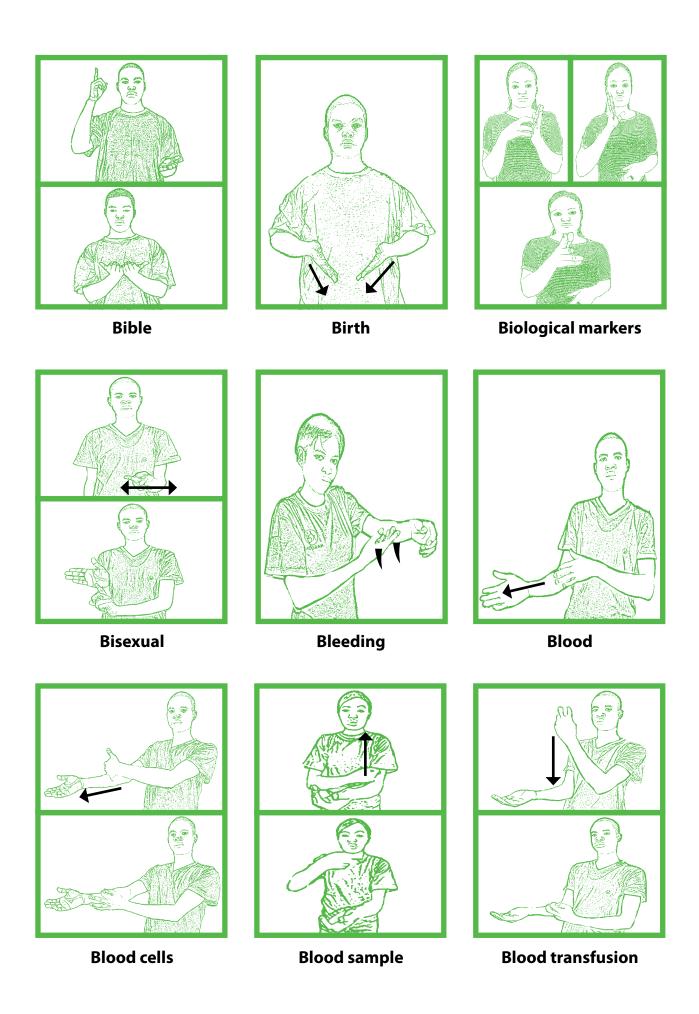
Directions are from the perspective of the signers in the drawings.

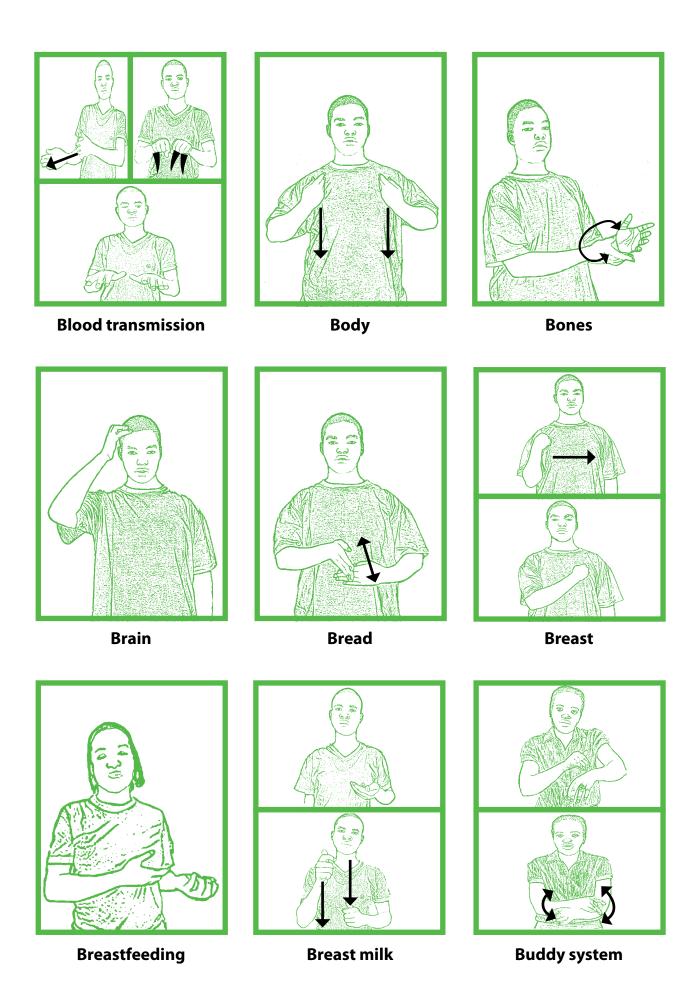
	Single movement once towards point
	Double movement twice towards point
←	Repeated movement, back and forth
—	Repeated movement, forward, back, and forward
N	Repeated movement, down, up, and down
	Right and left arches, going either up or down
\bigcirc	Clockwise and counter clockwise circular movement
	Clockwise and counter clockwise horizontal circular movement
$\bigcirc \bigcirc$	Clockwise and counter clockwise vertical circular movement
~~ ~	Wavy, wiggling or bouncing movement
معوی	Spiral movement
	Motion markers show shaking, trembling, slight wiggling, et, movements
	Flicking Movement. Represents fingers being flicked out from a closed hand
	Person markers

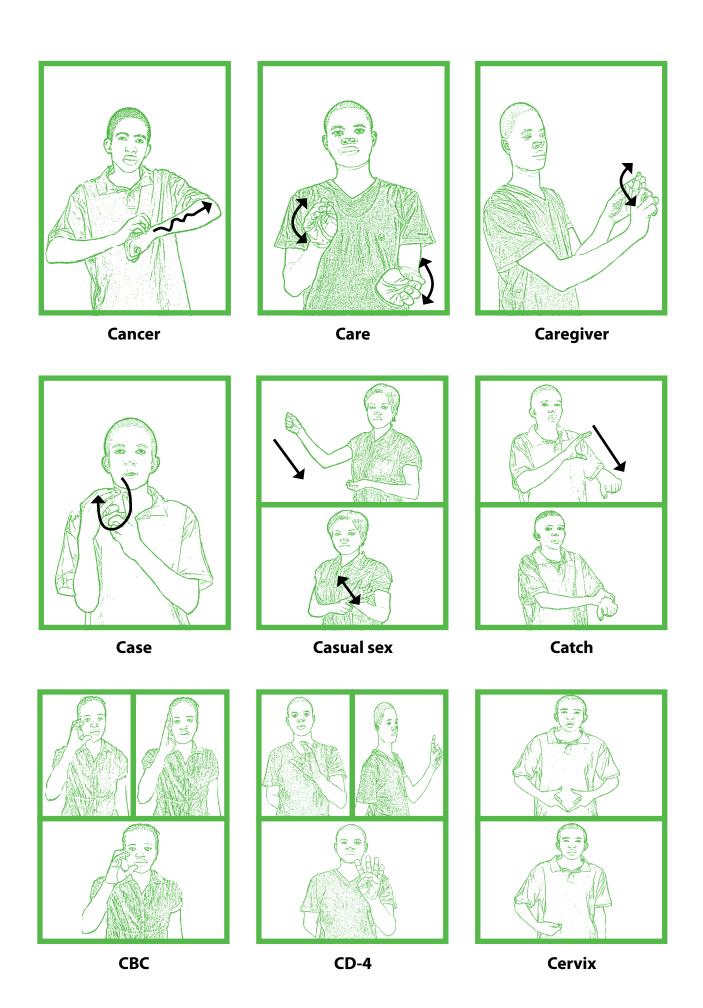


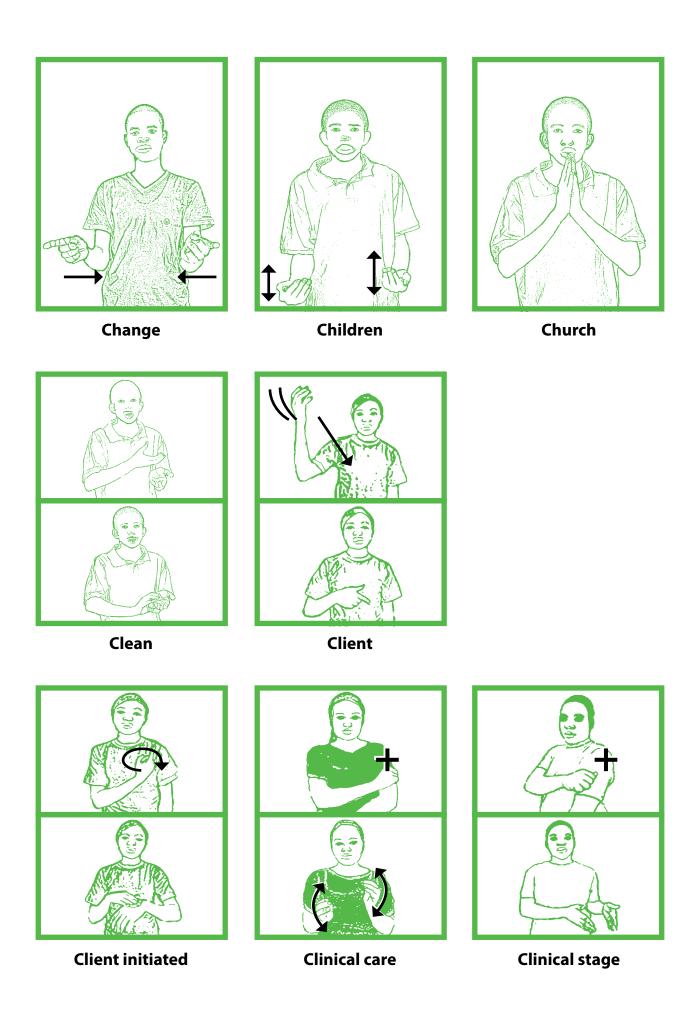


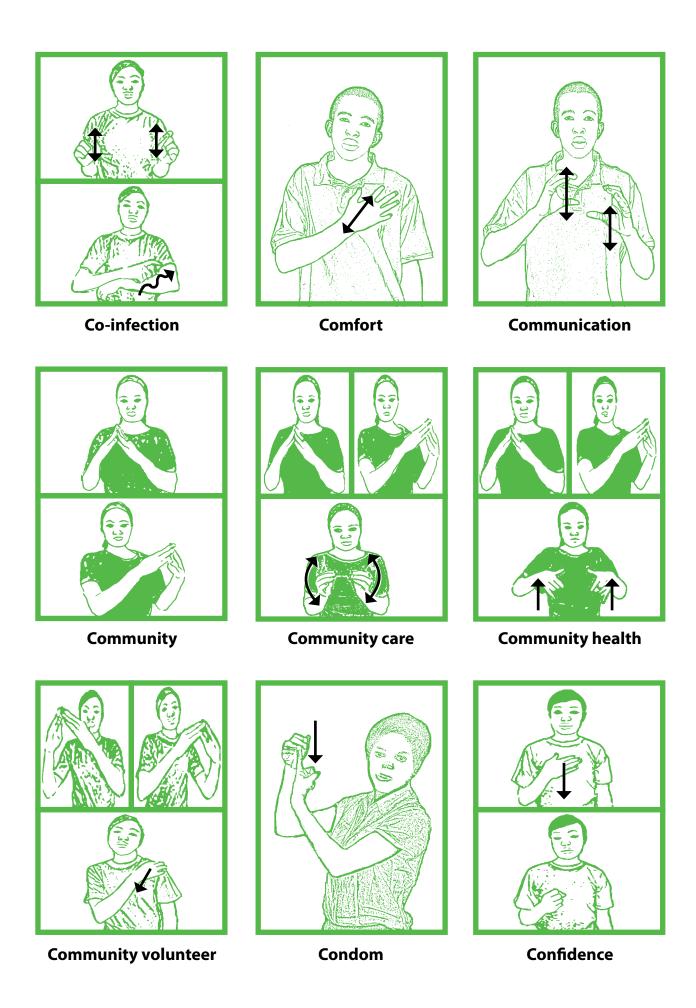






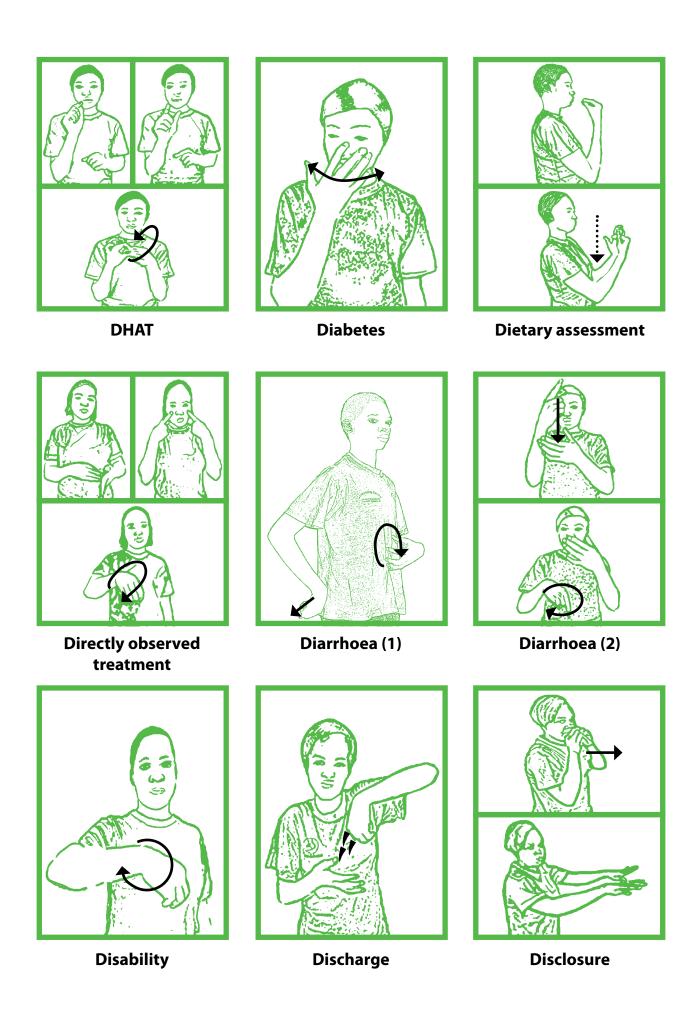








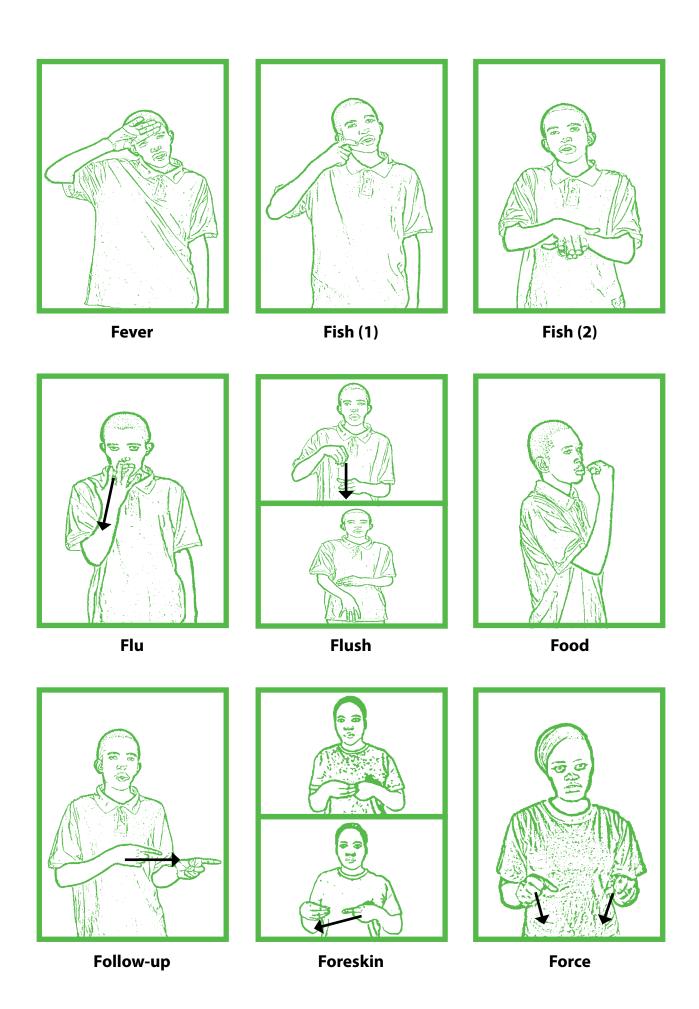




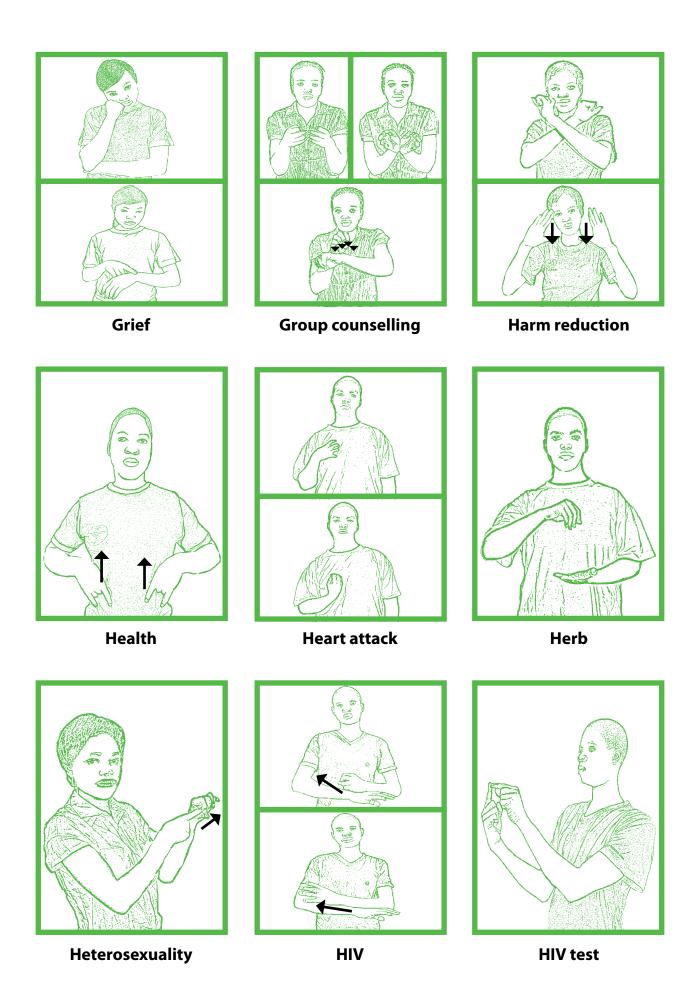


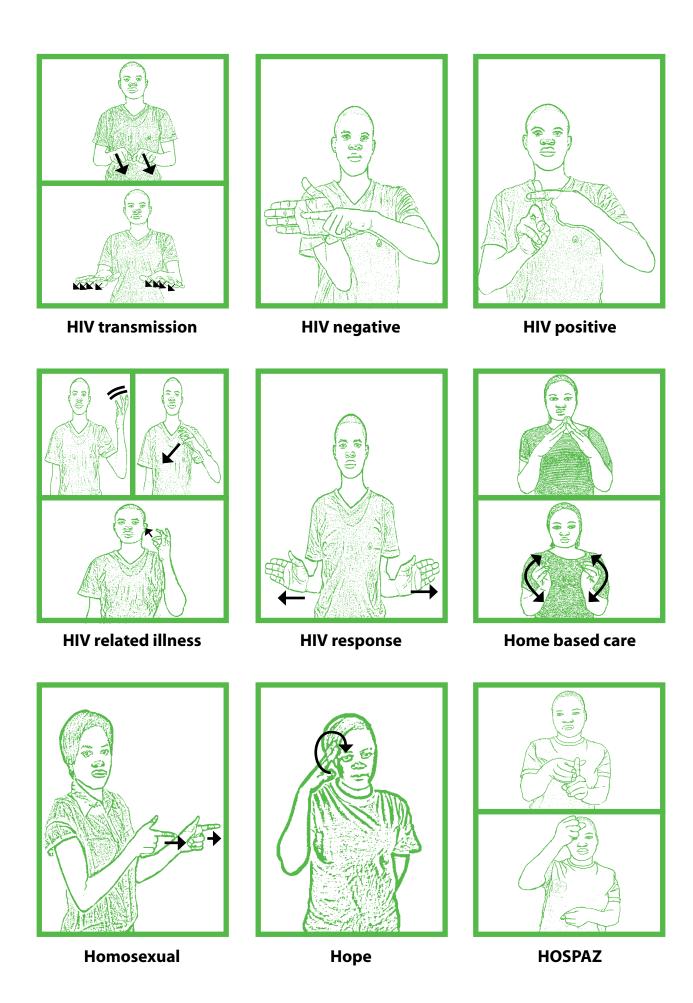


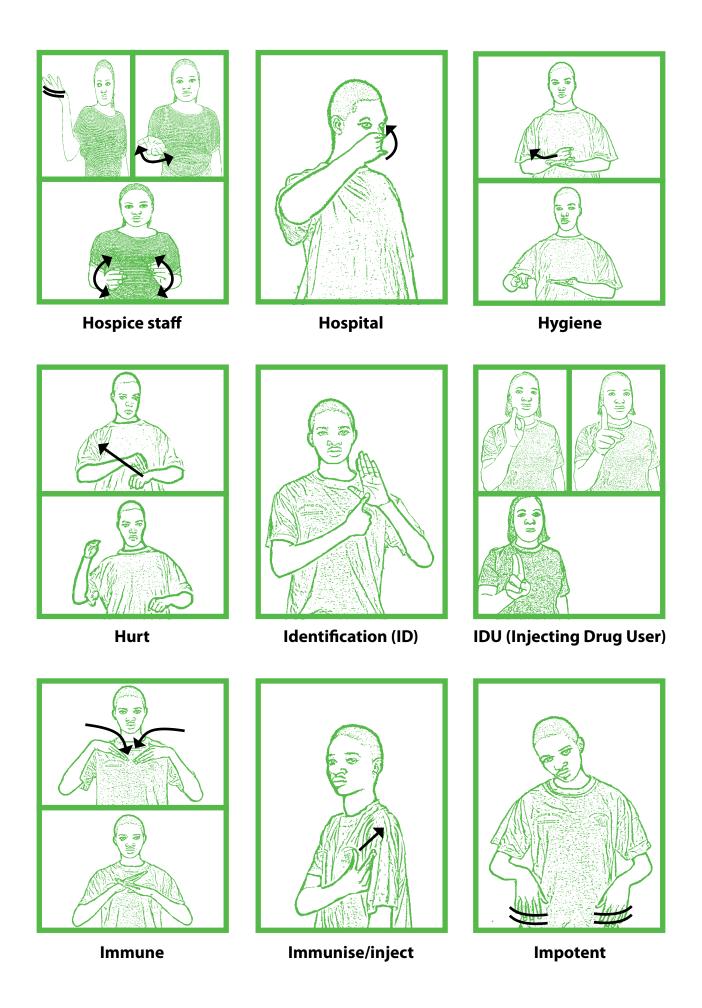




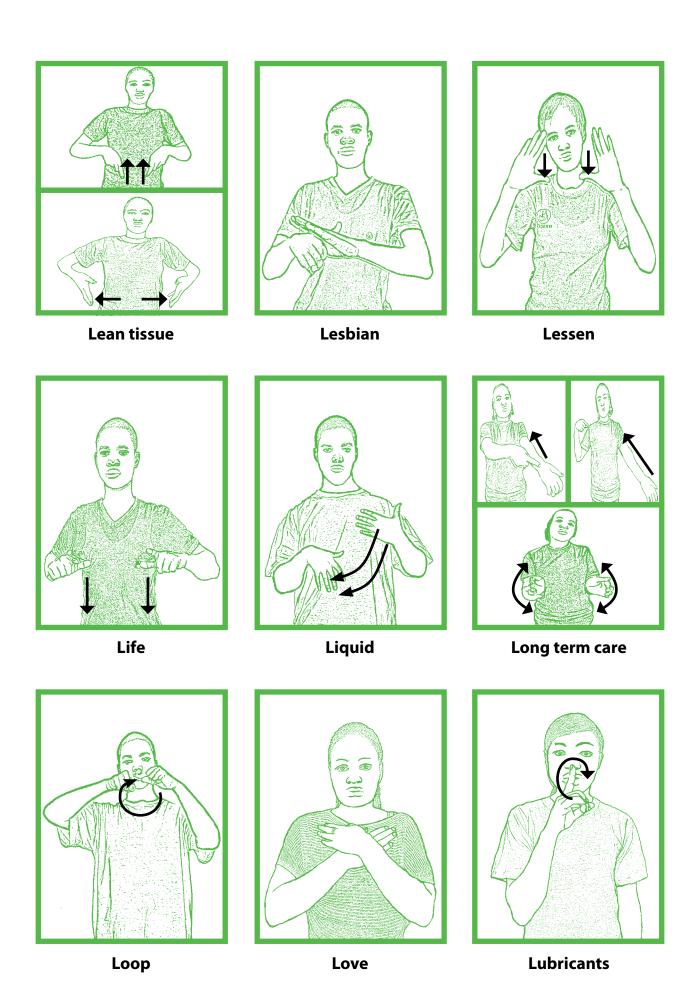


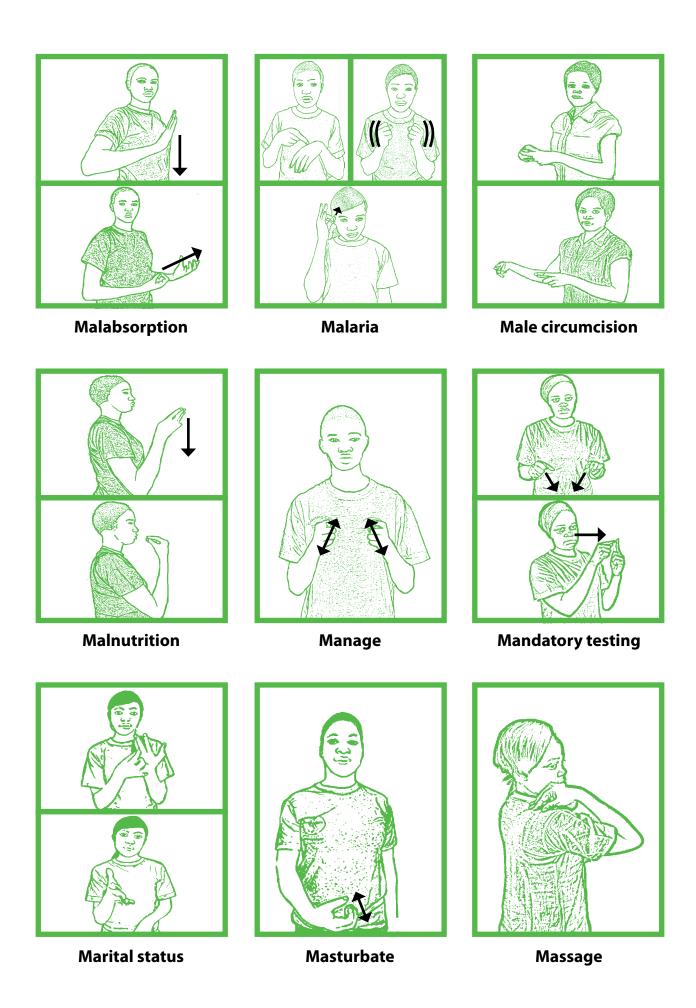


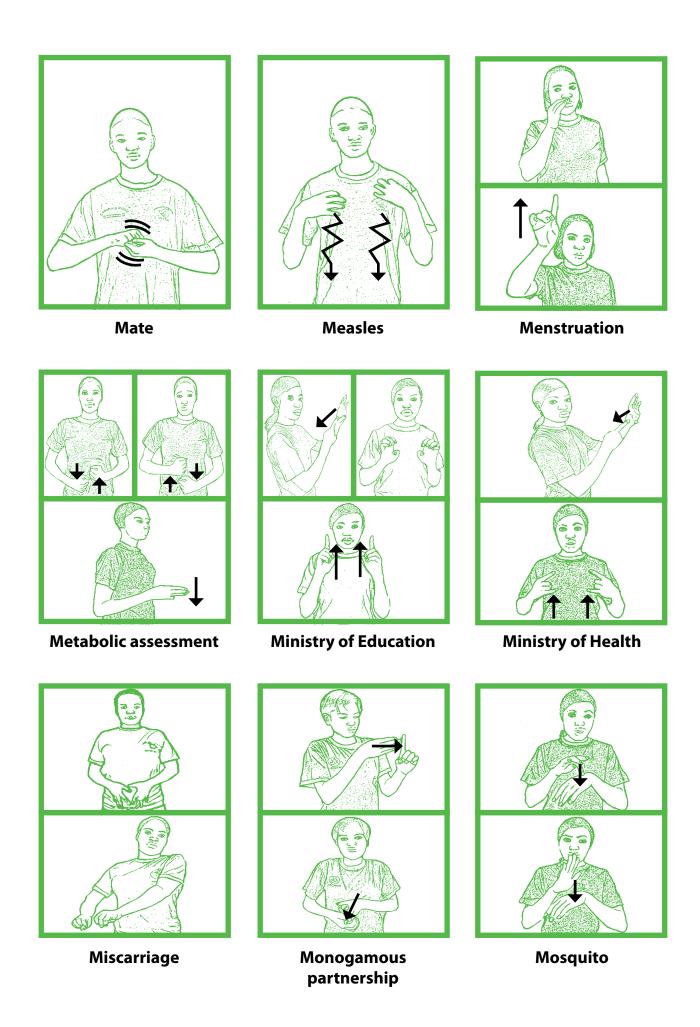


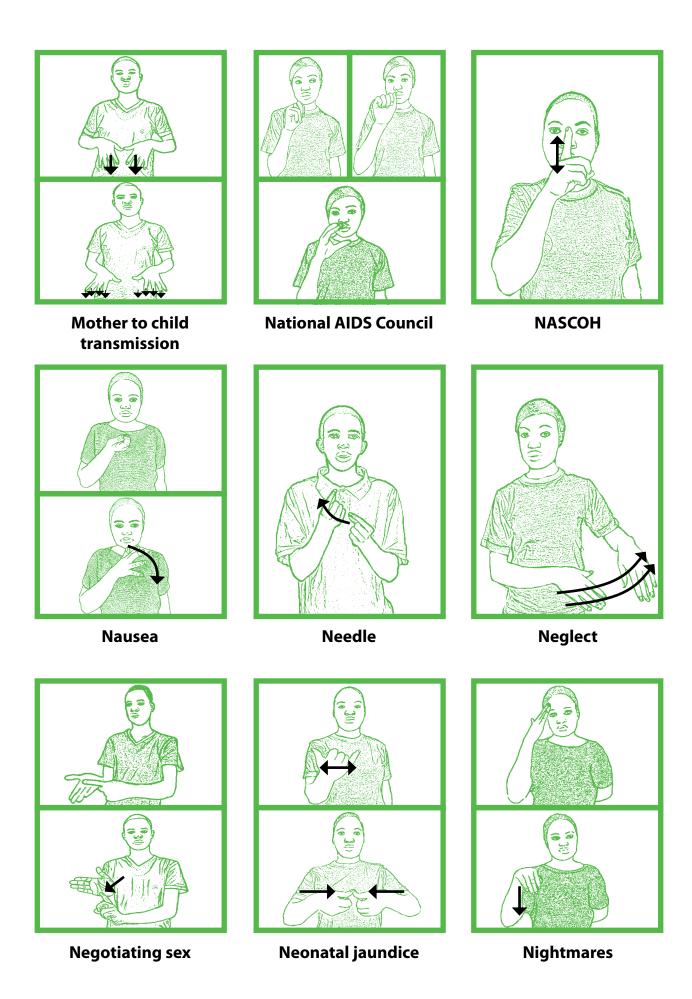


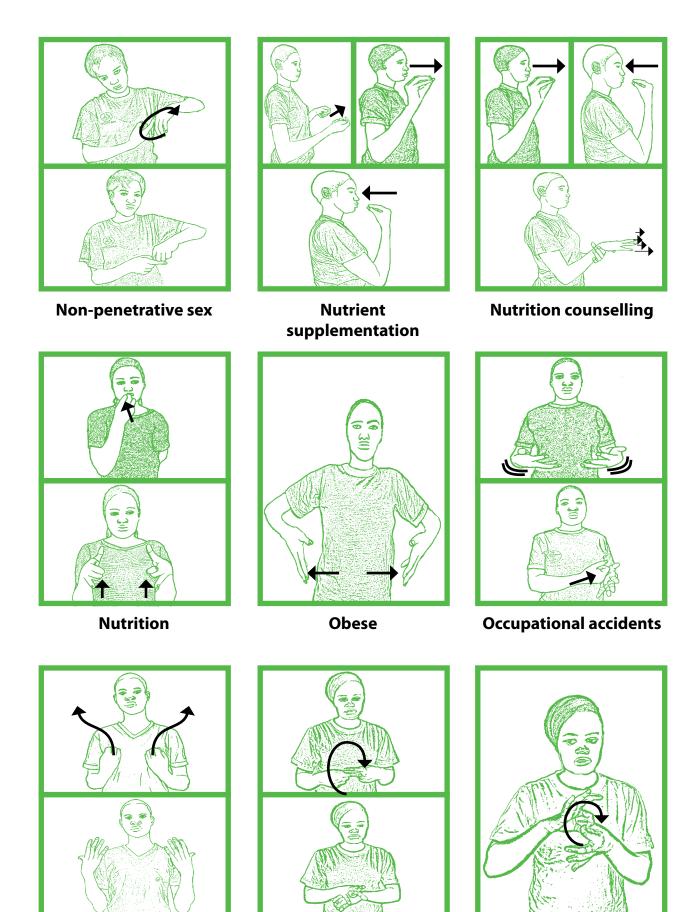








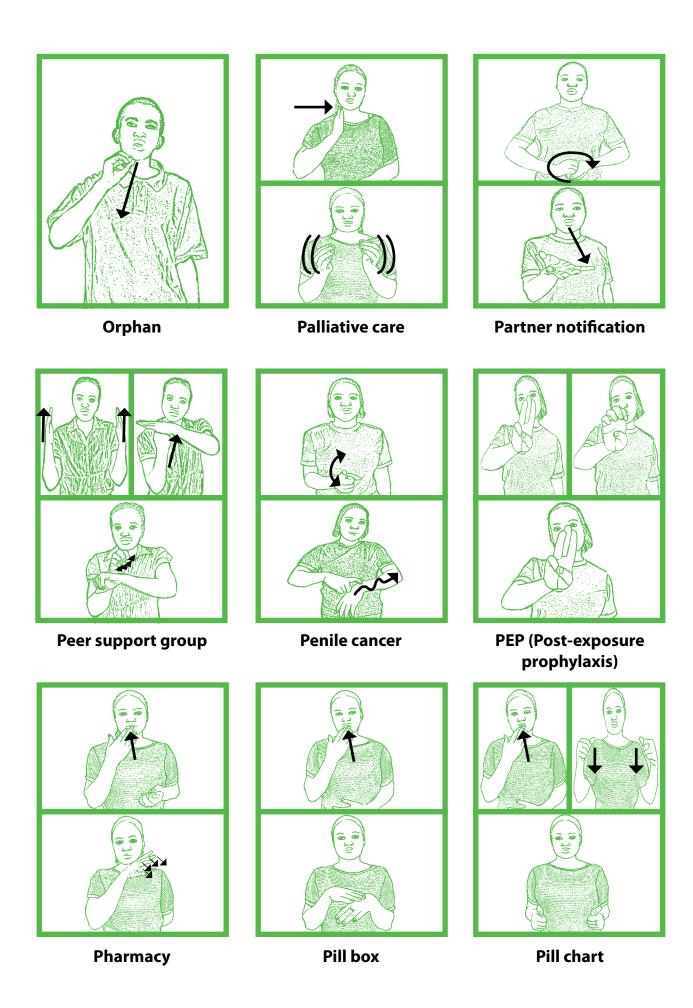




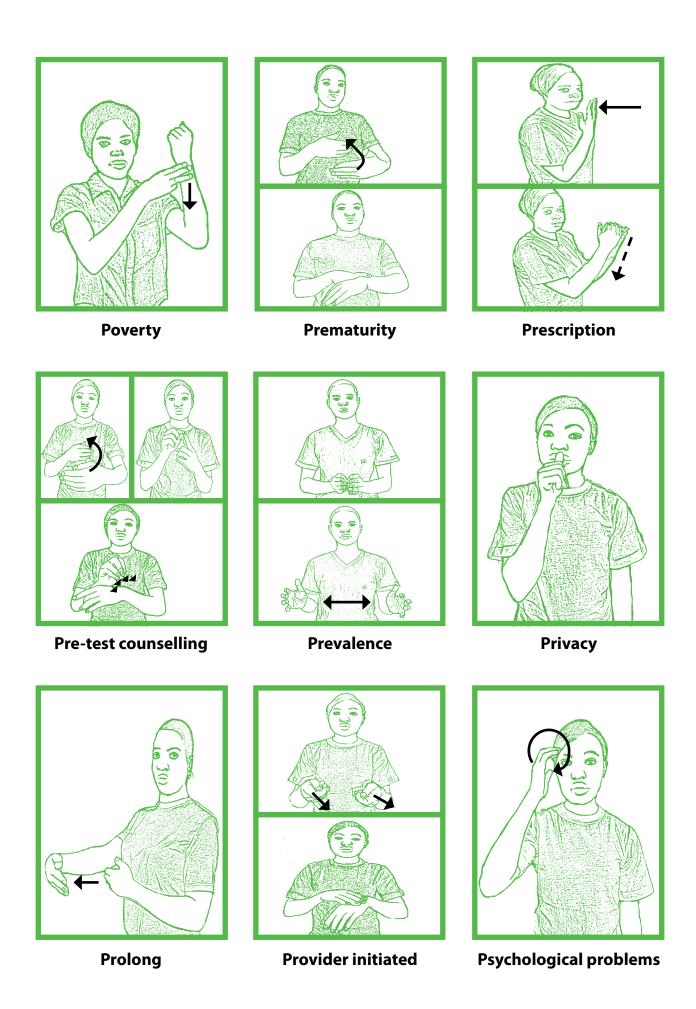
On-going counselling

Opportunistic infections

Organisation

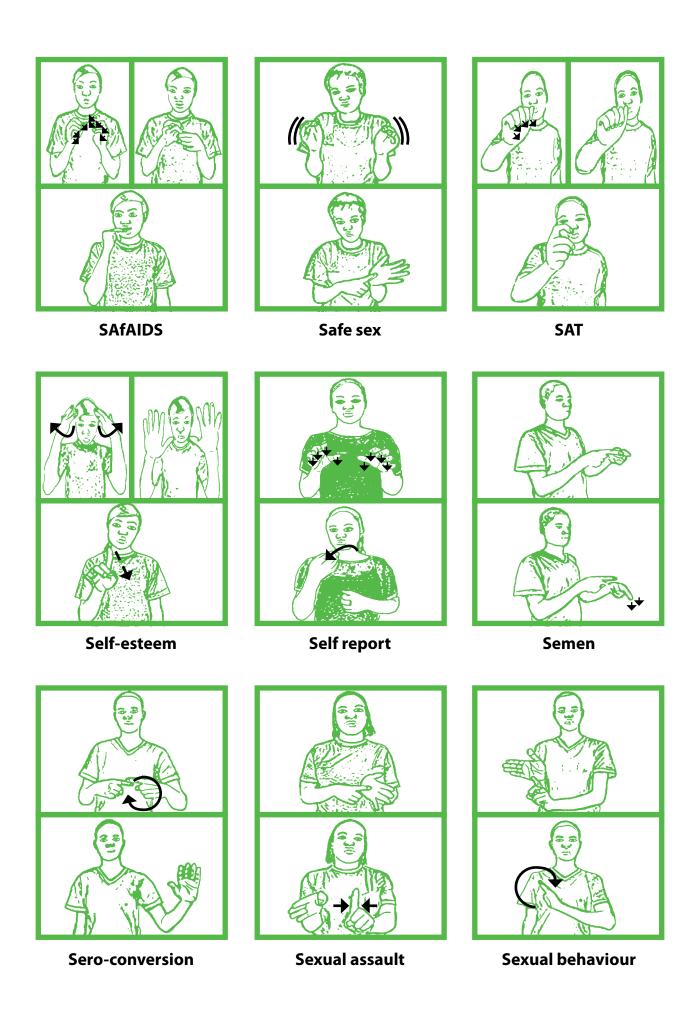


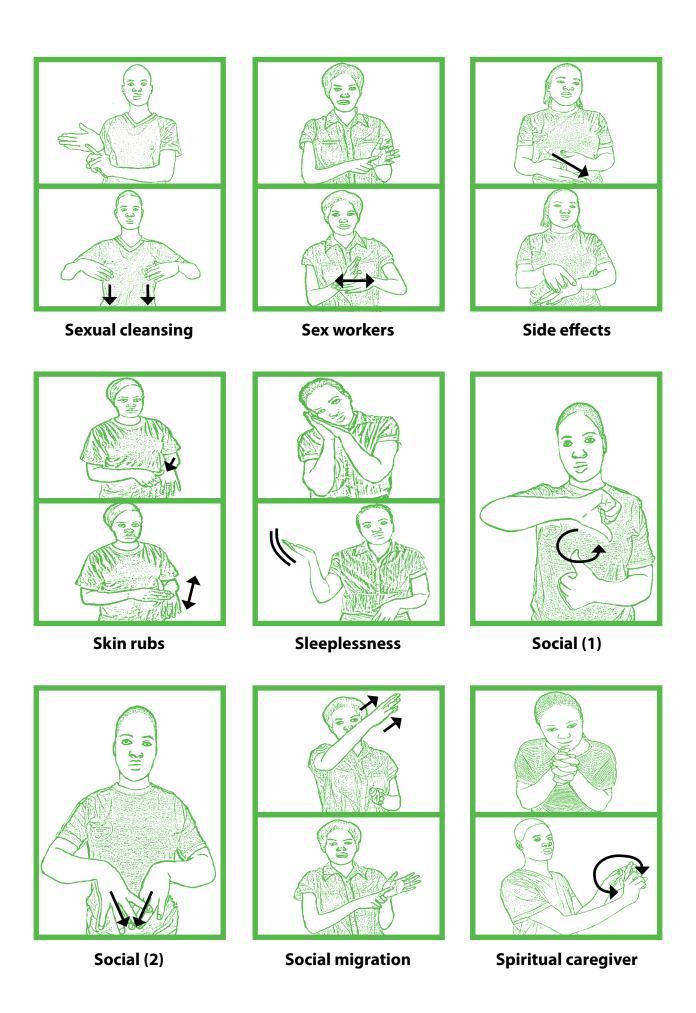


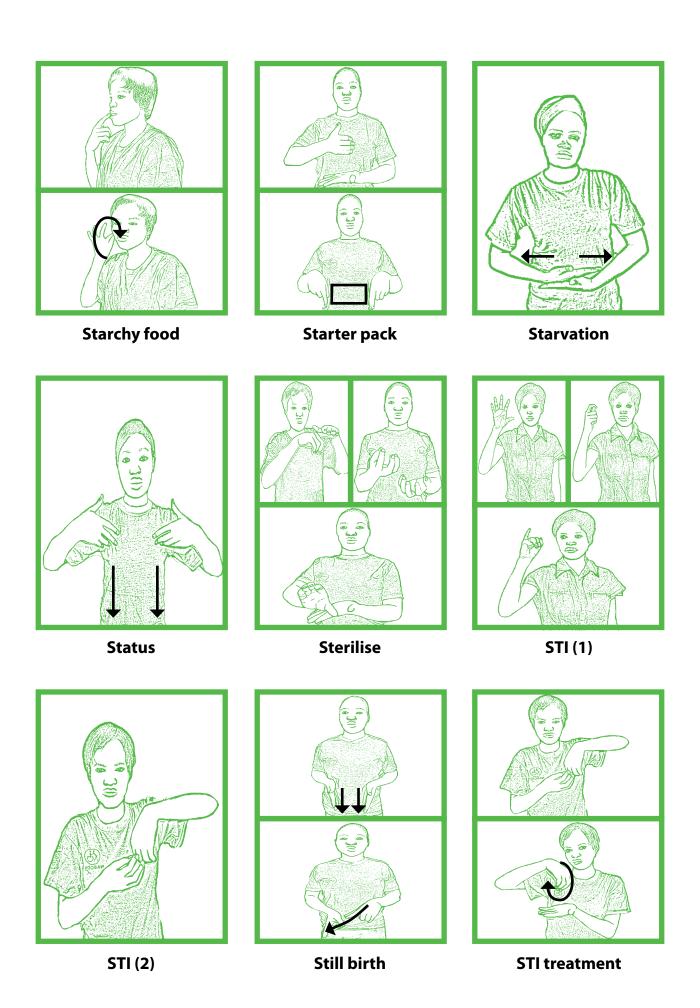


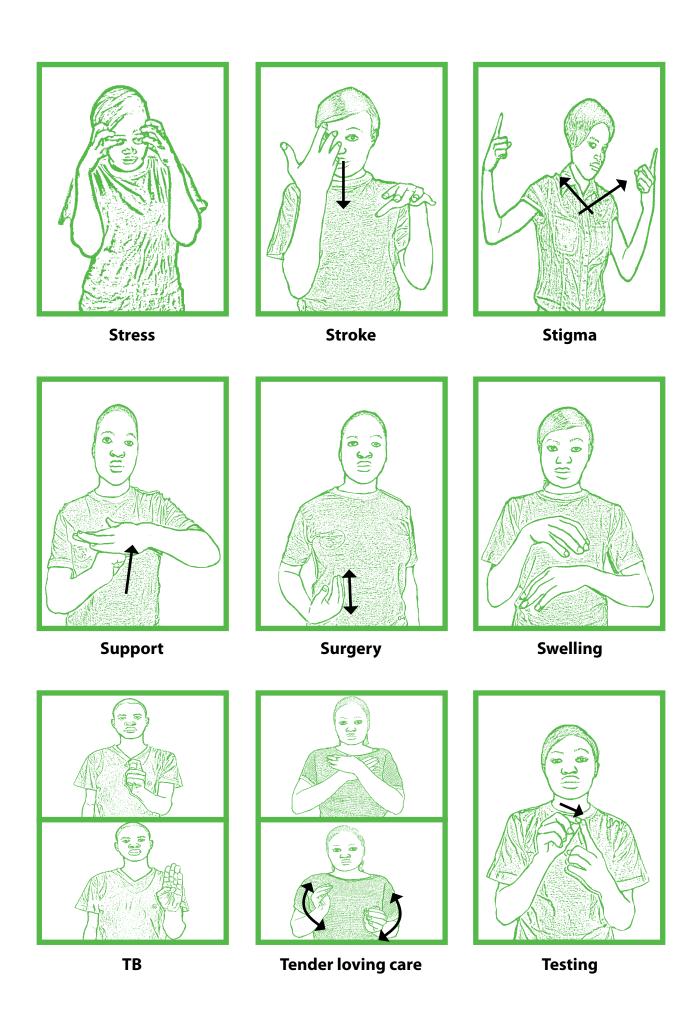


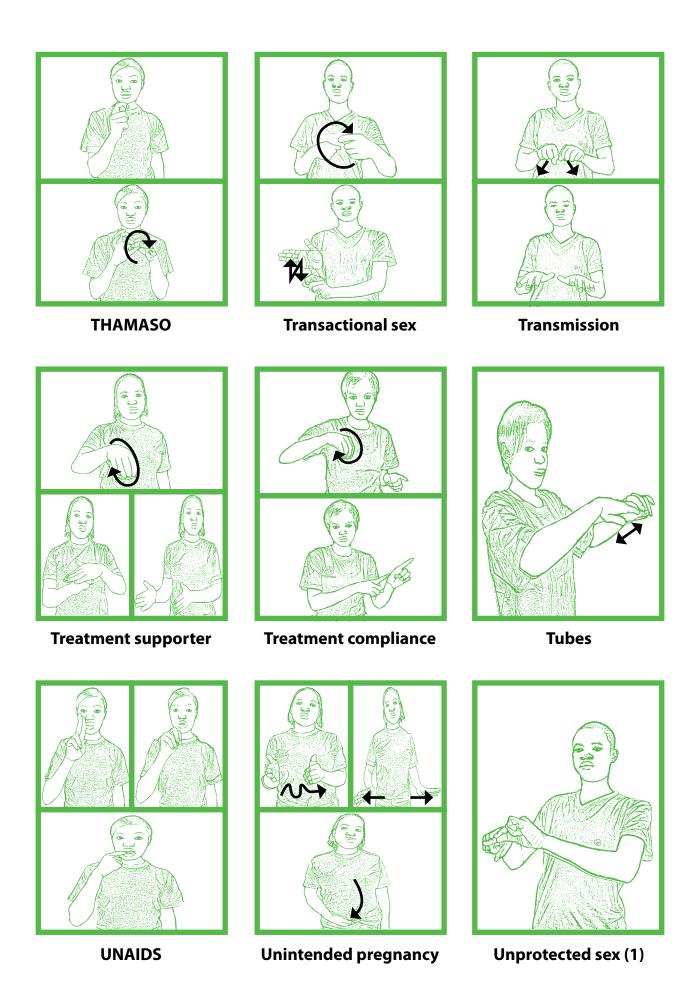


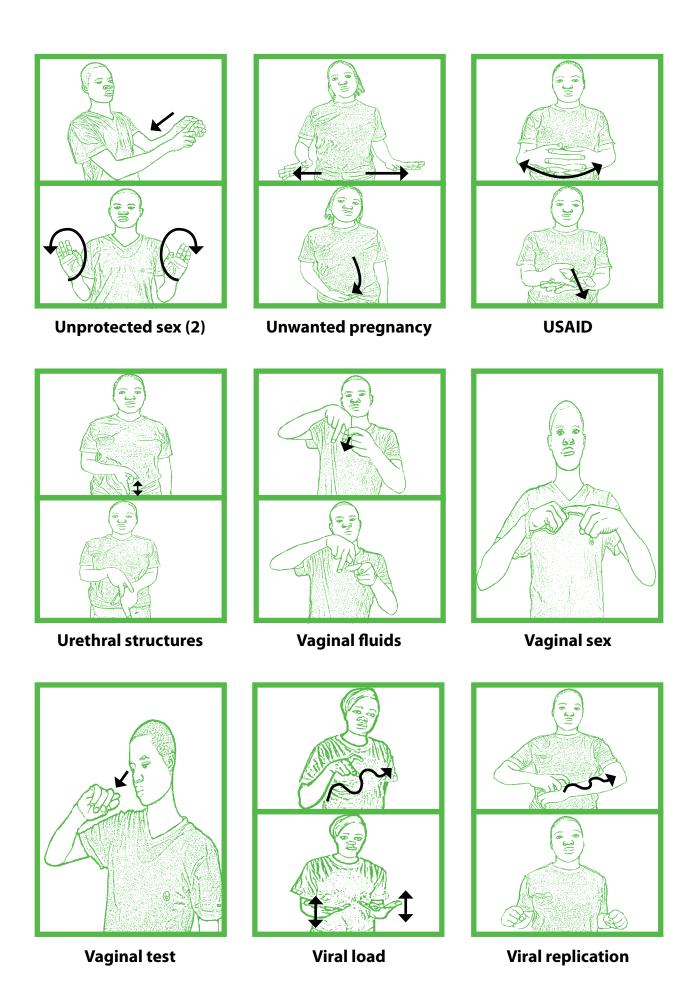


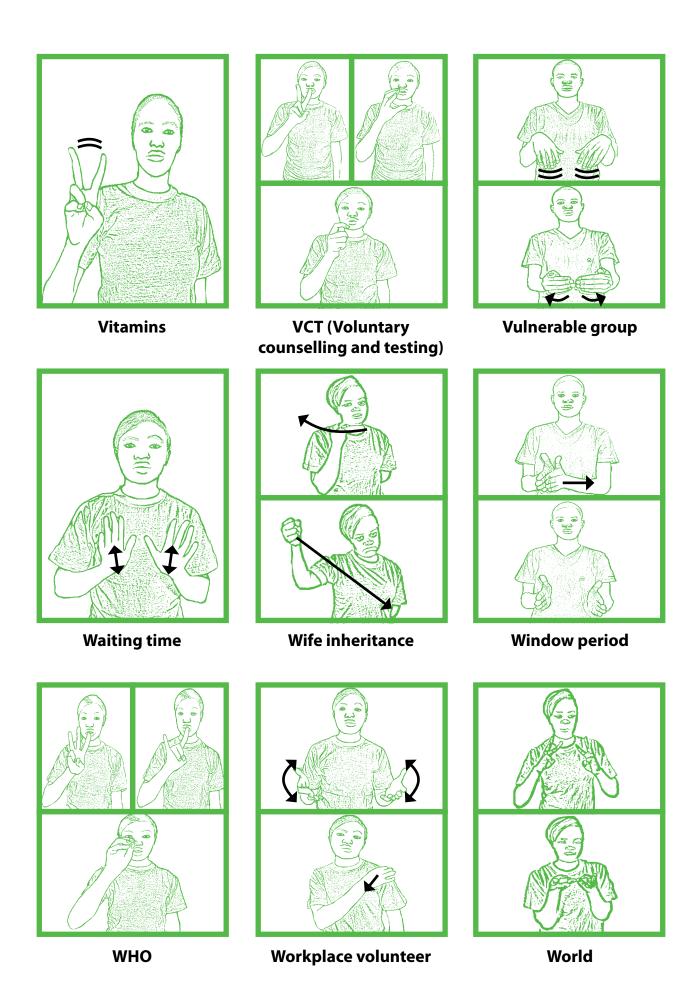












GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Adherence Faithfulness to something

Adherence counseling Helping people who are on ARVs

Adapt To make a change in doing things

Adult Persons older than 18 years in Zimbabwe

Advocacy Arguing or pleading in favour of oneself or one's group

After When something has already happened

Africa The continent where Zimbabwe is

Against Touching something – or disagreeing with something

Aide/assistant Person who assists those who are sick, for example with

taking medication

AIDS Is a name given to group of serious illnesses in people

living with HIV (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)

Alcohol A drink that makes one lose control of oneself

Antibodies Cells in the blood that help fight diseases

Anal Sex Sexual intercourse through the anus

Antenatal clinic A clinic for pregnant woman that helps care for the mother

and baby before birth

ARV Is a drug which controls the multiplication of the HIV virus

Asthma Difficulty in breathing

Asymptomatic stage Stage of HIV infection before a person gets sick

Aware Knowing about something

Balance Equal distribution of weight or importance

Bandage Cloth that supports an injured body part

Balanced diet Healthy food that boosts the immune system

Bereavement Sadness after losing someone close through death

Bedridden Very ill in bed, not able to walk

Bedsores Wounds, sores that develop in people who are sick in bed

for a long time

Behaviour change A process of adjusting manners and performance

Belong Feeling close to a group, family or friends

Beneficial disclosure Expose or discover in a helpful way

Bible Book designed to guide Christian life

Birth Delivering a child

Biological markers Things in the blood that tell the doctor about the health of

a person

Bisexual Having sexual feeling for both male and female

Bleeding Losing blood

Blood Bodily fluid in that delivers necessary substances such as

nutrients and oxygen to the cells

Blood cells These are parts of the blood that bring oxygen to cells;

protect the body against infection; and stop bleeding

when the body is injured

Blood sampleBlood taken for medical purposes

Blood transfusion Receiving blood as medical treatment

Blood transmission Illness spreading through the blood

Body The human body is the entire structure of a human being

Bones Rigid organs that support and protect various body organs

Brain The brain is the centre of the nervous system that controls

all human functioning

Bread Food made from flour and water and often yeast

Breast The part of the body between the neck and the belly, on the

chest

Breastfeeding Feeding of babies through from mothers' breasts

Breast milk It is the natural milk from the breast

Buddy system Supporting people infected with HIV so that take their

medicine correctly and feel loved

Cancer Cancer is the uncontrolled growth of abnormal cells in the

body

Care Thinking about others and protecting them

Caregiver A person who think about others and looks after them

Case A situation/example – or a person with an illness

Casual sex Having sex with someone you don't know

Catch To stop something moving in the air – or to get an illness

CBC Community based care

CD4 cells Type of white blood cell in the body that fights infection

CD4 count Tells a person living with HIV how weak or strong his or her

immune system is

Cervix The lower part of the uterus (womb) that opens at the top

of the vagina

Change Shifting from one behaviour or event to another

Children Youngsters aged between 0-18 years in Zimbabwe

Church worship A building where people who believe in Christ go to

Clean Hygienic

Client A person who goes to look for help

Clinical care It is help which is given at the clinic or hospital

Client initiated When a person feels to go for a test with no one forcing,

free by self

Clinical stage How a doctor decides the level of a sickness and what

treatment is needed

Co-infection When a person is ill with two diseases at one time

Comfort Feeling loved

Communication Discussion between two or more people

Community People living in the same place

Community care Help and care by people to a person living within the same

area

Community health People of the same area giving help to the sick

Community volunteer People of the same area who go to help on their own will,

not forced

Condom Very thin and strong soft plastic worn by men and women

when having sex to prevent mix of body fluids

Confidence Self belief

Confidentiality One's secrets or privacy

Conflict Having argument

Confusion State of not understanding

Consistent condom use Using condom every time when having sex

Contraception Measures that prevent one from getting pregnant

Correct condom useUsing the condom following the right way

Counselling Empowering a person by helping them with their

problems

Counsellor A person who empowers individuals into decision making

Couple counselling Two people in love going to look for help from a counsellor

Cuddling An embrace that lasts longer than a simple hug.

Culture A group's way of life and behaviour

Cure To make well

Darling A person very dear to another; one dearly loved.

Date Love affair

Dead/die Not now alive

Death Separation of the spirit from the flesh

Delayed sexNo sex until after marriage

Denial Refusing to believe and understand

Depression feeling very unhappy – may be a mental illness

DHAT Disability, HIV and AIDS Trust

Diabetes Excess sugar levels in body

Die/dead Not now alive

Dietary assessmentLooking into the taking of food and nutrition to control illness

Directly observed treatment Making sure sick people swallow medicine from doctors as

told

Diarrhoea When the body's solid waste is liquid and comes out more

often

Disability A condition which limits a person's ability to function in

major life activities

Discharge 1) sent out of hospital

2) Passing out of body fluids like pus

Disclosure Telling someone new or secret information

Discomfort Feeling mild pain

Discriminate To be against a person

DiseaseIllness caused by an infection or a failure of health and not

by an accident

Dispose To throw away

Dizziness Feeling like fainting

Dose Give required measured medicine

Drowsiness Feeling sleepy

Drug abuse medicinesUsing medicines in the wrong way or using illegal

Drugs Medicine taken when one is ill

Dry sex Having sex with no liquids of feelings

Dual protection Use of condoms and other contraception to protect

people with STIs, HIV and from re-infection

Early treatment Getting HIV treatment before one gets sick

Earn To get money for doing work

Economy The way a country produces and uses goods and money

Education The knowledge that you get from learning in school

Emotional Showing joy, sorrow, fear or hate

End of life careCare that help sick people live as well as possible until they

die

Epilepsy Brain problems that cause seizures

Faith based organisation Organisation which is based on religious beliefs

Faithful Having sex with only one sexual partner

Faithless Lack of belief in religion or self

Family planning Is the planning of when to have children, and the use of

contraception to carry out such plans.

FAO Food and Agricultural Organization

Fatigue State of being weak, tired and exhausted

Female condomCondom that is used by women and is fitted in the vagina

Fear Is a disturbing feeling in response to physical and

emotional danger

Feed Giving food

Fever When the body temperature is high because they are ill

Fish (1 & 2) An animal that lives only in water and swims

Flu An infectious disease of birds and mammals caused by a

virus

Flush To become red in the face and often other areas of the

skin, from physiological or emotional causes

Food Anything we eat or drink

Follow up Action to check whether good health is continuing after a

doctor or nurse visit

Force Strength or power exerted upon an object or person

Foreskin Double layered skin covering the penis

Free Not being controlled by anyone or anything

Fresh Good condition and palatable

Friend Someone whom we play and share secretes with

Fruit Food that grows on a tree or a bush and contains seeds

Gay Homosexual person

Genital mutilation Partial or total removal of women's private parts

Girlfriend Girl love partner

Good care Looking after a sick person in the right way

Grains Foods like maize and wheat

Grief Response when one loses a loved one

Group counselling Helping people with the same problem in a group

Harm reduction Activities designed to reduce the harmful consequences

associated with human behaviours. Changing harmful

behaviour

Health State of being well

Heart attack A heart attack occurs if the flow of oxygen-rich blood to a

section of heart muscle suddenly becomes blocked.

Herb Any plant parts "leaves, seeds, or flowers used for

flavouring food, medicine, or perfume" used in cooking"

Heterosexuality Intimacy or sexual intercourse between a man and woman

HIV Virus that cause AIDS (Human immunodeficiency virus)

HIV test Test used to see if someone has HIV

HIV transmission Ways in which HIV spread

HIV negative No HIV in blood

HIV positive Having HIV in blood

HIV-related illnessDiseases that affect people who are HIV positive

HIV response Programmes and efforts to combat the spread of HIV

Home based care Caring for sick persons in the home

Homosexual man A man who get into romantic relationship with another

Hope To want something to happen or be true. The emotional

state which believes in a positive outcome of events and

circumstances in one's life.

HOSPAZ Hospice Association of Zimbabwe

Hospice staff People who look after terminally ill persons

Hospital A health care institution providing patient treatment by

specialised staff and equipment

Hurt Suffering or pain.

Hygiene Keeping things clean, to prevent disease

Identification (ID) An official document that proves who you are

IDU A person who injects illegal drugs (injecting drug user)

Immune Protected from a disease

Immunise Getting protected from a disease (usually by having an

injection)

Impotent When the penis will not get hard, or stay hard so

penetration can happen

Infection/infected A disease in part of the body caused by bacteria, viruses or

parasites. Person living with a disease such as HIV

Information Facts about a situation, event or person

Initiation Ceremony marking entrance or acceptance into a group or

society

Informed consent Making a decision while being aware of the implications

Intercourse When a man puts his penis into a woman's body for the

purpose of sexual satisfaction

Isolation State of being lonely

Jesus The son of God in Christian religion

Kissing Pressing your mouth onto another person's mouth in a

sexual way

Latex condom A condom made of latex – a kind of rubber. The most

widely available and least expensive of all the condom

types

Lean tissue Lean tissue comprises all body weight other than fat

Lesbian Sexual and romantic desire between females

Lessen Reducing

Life The existence of a person

Liquid Any watery fluid

Long term care Care that goes on for a long time

Loop A long thin circle

Love To like someone very much

Lubricants Fluids or creams used with condoms or on genital parts

before sexual intercourse to make penetration easier -

(not Vaseline as this can make condoms break)

Malabsorption When the body cannot get the goodness from food a

person eats

Malaria Disease cause by mosquitoes

Male circumcision Removing the foreskin from the penis

Malnutrition Poor diet or food

Manage Ability to control the available situation

Mandatory testing Having HIV test for all people even without informed

consent

Marital status Whether one is married, single, widowed or divorced

Massage Rubbing or pressing parts of someone's body to make

them relax or stop muscles hurting

Masturbate To touch or rub your own or someone elses's private parts

for sexual satisfaction

Mate Friend

Menstruation Monthly flow of blood in women

Metabolic assessment Test to see how well the body uses food for energy and

growth

Ministry of Education Government office responsible for schools

Ministry of Health Government office responsible for health

Miscarriage When a baby is born too early and dies because it has not

developed enough

Multiple concurrent

sexual partners

Having many sexual partners at the same time

Monogamous partnership Having one sexual partner at any given time

Mother-to-child transmission When a baby gets infected with HIV from the mother

before, during or after birth

NAC National AIDS Council

NASCOH National Association for the Care of the Handicapped

Nausea Sickness of the stomach and vomiting

Needle A thin, sharp, metal piece of medical equipment used to

take blood out of the body, or to put medicine or drugs in

Neglect Not taking care of or ignoring

Negotiating sex Process of talking and agreeing in having sex before you

engage in sexual activity

Neonatal jaundice Is when a baby has high levels of bilirubin in the blood.

Bilirubin is a yellow substance that the body creates when it replaces old red blood cells. The liver helps break down the substance so it can be removed from the body in the stool

Nightmares A frightening or unpleasant dream that causes a strong

negative feeling

Non-penetrative sexGetting sexual satisfaction without putting penis in the

vagina or anus

Nutrient supplementation The taking of medication that gives the nutrients lacking

in a person's body

Nutrition counselling The right foods to eat in line with ones condition of illness

through the help of a counsellor

Nutrition It is to do with food balance that people eat

Obese Overweight

Occupational accidents hurt When bad things happen in workplaces and people get

Opportunistic infections Diseases that get in the body when it is weak, mainly due

to HIV

Ongoing counselling Helping people make informed decisions all the time

Organisation A group of people who work together for a collective goal

Orphan A child without one or both parents

Palliative care Making someone comfortable when they have a disease

that cannot be cured and will end their life

Partner notification Telling wife, husband or sexual partner about HIV status or

STI infection

Peer support group Group of people with the same situation helping each

other

Penile Cancer Cancer illness in the area of the penis

PEP (post-exposure prophylaxis) ARVs taken to prevent getting HIV after contact with body

fluids of an infected person (post–exposure prophylaxis)

Pharmacy Shop that sells medicines and other treatments

Pill box Box for keeping tablets that shows the order of taking

everyday

Pill Chart Paper to record when pills are taken and how to take

medicine

Pill CountCounting the pills left in the prescription at the visit to the

doctor

PLHIV Short for people living with HIV

PMTC Prevention of mother-to-child transmission

Polygamy A man having two or more wives at the same time

Positive living Steps taken by people living with HIV to help them keep

healthy and live a long life

Positive prevention When a person with HIV makes sure that he or she does

not infect others with HIV

Post test clubs Groups of people who meet after an HIV test to help each

other and share ideas and information

Post test counseling Talking to people after an HIV test whether they come

positive or negative

Poverty Lack of basic material means of survival

Prematurely Baby born before it is ready

Prescription A piece of paper from a doctor saying what medicine

someone needs

Pre-test counselling Talking before HIV testing process

Prevalence When something exists a lot in a group, area or time

Privacy Having time and space alone

Prolong Make long or extend

PITC (Provider initiated testing) When a doctor or nurse suggests an HIV or other test

Psychological problemsWorries that affect a person's mind

Psychosocial The interaction between the mind and emotions and one's

social situation e.g. home, school or community

Quality of Life The general well-being of individuals.

Rape Having forced intercourse with someone who does not want

Rapid test HIV test that gives fast test results

Rash Itchy red spots on the skin

Reassurance Something you say to stop someone from worrying

Recurrent treatmentBeing treated again for the second time the same disease

Red Cross It is Non-governmental Organization that helps in disaster,

health and famine affected countries

Referral When one is sent for medical or other care

Refilling tracking Following up on someone taking medication to check if

they are taking all and also if they need more

Rehabilitation Helping someone to live a normal life again after illness

Re- infection Getting more illness on top of the one the person already

has

Relationship It is a connection of people or things with something in

common

Resistance When an illness is not cured by the medicine used to treat it

Resistant organismsDisease which cannot be fought by medicines that treat it

Results Information after an exam, such as the outcome of an HIV test

Re-treatment Being treated again for the same disease that was treated

before

Rocking Moving backwards and forwards or from side to side

SAFAIDS Southern Africa HIV and AIDS Information Dissemination

Service

Safe sex Using a condom when having sexual intercourse

Self esteemBelief in one's abilities and capabilities

Self report Telling someone about one's health problems

Semen Sexual fluids released by a man through the penis when

sexually satisfied. Semen contain sperms which make a

woman pregnant

Sero-conversion When antibodies for HIV can be detected in the body

Sexual assault Using force to have sex with someone who does not want it.

Sexual behaviour A person's sexual activity or practice

Sexual cleansing A cultural practice done when a woman's husband has died

Sex worker A person who has sex for money

Side effects Another effect of a drug on one's body in addition to the

main effect under treatment

Skin rubs Different ointments for skin care

Sleeplessness Failing to sleep

Social (1) & (2) Activities when one spends time interacting with other

people

Social migration When people move to areas where they feel comfortable,

especially to areas where the people have the same

background

Spiritual caregiver A friend who helps with spiritual needs

Starchy foods Foods that provide the body with starch like bread

Starter pack First issue of certain ARVs to see if the drugs are suitable

for the person's body

Starvation Severe deficiency in calories, energy, nutrient and vitamin

intake. It is the most extreme form of malnutrition

Status 1) The condition position of a person's health or

2) If they are married or not

Sterilise Clean very hard, removing germs

STI (1) & (2) Sexually transmitted infection

Still birth Giving birth to a dead baby

STI treatment Medicine to treat STIs

Stress Anything that poses a challenge or a threat to our well-being

Stroke A sudden problem in the brain that causes inability to

move parts of the body

Stigma When people disapprove of something or someone

because of things about them

Support Help given to anyone in need

Surgery Medical specialty that cuts open the patient's body to treat

an injury or illness, or to see what is wrong

Swelling Enlargement of body tissue due to illness

TB Tuberculosis- a serious infection of lungs that is easily

spread to other people

Tender loving care Considerate and compassionate care

Testing It is testing for the existence of diseases, such as HIV

THAMASO The HIV and AIDS Management and Support Organization

Transactional sex Sexual intercourse in exchange for goods or other benefits

Transmission Passing on of something

Treatment supporter Having someone to encourage and helping you in taking

medications

Treatment compliance To follow treatment instructions as directed by doctor or

nurse

Tubes A long, thin passageway along which the women's egg or

the men's sperm move

UNAIDS United Nations Organization which helps countries in

issues of HIV and AIDS

Unintended pregnancy When a women gets pregnant without meaning to

Unprotected sex (1) & (2) Having sex without wearing a condom

Unwanted pregnancy When a woman gets pregnant without meaning to

USAID United States based Organization assisting different

countries

Urethral Structures The tube which carries urine from the bladder out of the

body

Vaginal fluids Fluids that come out of the vagina

Vaginal sex Sex when penis enters the vagina

Vaginal testThe process of looking in the vagina by doctor in search of

any illness

Viral load Viral load is the amount of HIV in your blood, measured by a

blood test. The more HIV in your blood, the faster your CD4 cells (immune system cells that fight infection) reduce, and

the greater your risk of becoming sick.

Viral replication Multiplication of HIV in the body

Vitamins Nutrients that promote good health

VCT Voluntary counselling and testing

Vulnerable group Group that is more at risk of certain diseases or problems

Waiting time The time one waits for test results, or to see a doctor

Wife inheritance A cultural practice where a widow is given a new husband

after the death of her husband

Window period The time when HIV has entered the body but cannot be

picked up by the HIV test – can last up to 3 months after

HIV infection

WHO World Health Organization (an Organization leading in the

health issues of the world)

Workplace volunteer Unpaid worker at the place of work who helps without

being forced

World The Earth and all the people, places, and things on it



