



YOU EITHER HAVE IT OR YOU DON'T: THE IMPACT OF MALE CIRCUMCISION STATUS ON SEXUAL PARTNERS



THE AIM OF THE STUDY WAS TO LEARN:

- How men's **circumcision status impacts their sexual partners**, with a focus on *sexual functioning, sexual satisfaction, general preferences for circumcision status, and beliefs about circumcision status.*

WHAT IS MALE CIRCUMCISION?

Male circumcision occurs when some or all of the prepuce or penile foreskin is removed, resulting in a change to the anatomic structure of the penis.



METHODS:

- 196 people over the age of 18 who were in a relationship with a cisgender male partner for at least 3 months were recruited for the study.
- They completed a variety of self-report measures assessing sexuality and circumcision variables.



FINDINGS

(1) The presence or absence of foreskin **did not impact sexual functioning of partners, whether they were women or men.**

(2) Women with circumcised partners were **significantly more satisfied** with their partners' circumcision status when flaccid compared to women with intact partners.

In contrast, men with intact partners reported **higher levels of satisfaction** with their partners' circumcision status compared to those with circumcised partners.

(3) Women reported a **preference towards circumcised partners for vaginal intercourse and fellatio**, with no significant preference towards circumcision status regarding anal intercourse or manual stimulation of their partners' genitals.

Men expressed a strong preference for sex with intact partners for anal intercourse, fellatio, and manual stimulation of their partners' genitals.

(4) Women attributed more **positive health-related** views of male genitals to circumcised penises, whereas, men indicated that circumcision status was not relevant for the same health-related factors.

Future research should use **qualitative research methods** to **explore variables that influence self-reported circumcision status preference for sexual acts.**