



REPUBLIC OF RWANDA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH



June 24, 2010

**Re: Invitation to Join “The PrePex System: Global Assessment Committee” – An Initiative by the Government of Rwanda**

Dear Dr. Thomas Serena,

We are pleased to invite you to join a new consultative committee the Government of Rwanda has created to advise us in the process of national scale up of **The PrePex System**, a new device and method created in collaboration with Circ MedTech, to facilitate safe, effective mass male circumcision, particularly in remote, rural areas.

The Government of Rwanda has ranked HIV prevention as a top priority item, and wishes to decrease the HIV incidence in the country by 50%. As part of a holistic HIV prevention approach, we decided to embark upon a process of national scale up of adult male circumcision (MC), as part of our short term plan. The national HIV prevention plan calls for voluntary MC of 2 million adults by the end of 2012.

We believe the only way to accomplish this bold objective is via safe, effective, easy to use methods like **The PrePex System**. Accordingly, we launched a national study to assess this device. Following a successful feasibility study stage, we have launched the pivotal stage of the study.

We have decided to invite global thought leaders to help us assess this device and provide us with collective wisdom, in order to expedite our important prevention goals. The Committee Chair is **Dr. Theobald Hategekimana**, a Urologist, Surgeon, and Director General of the Kigali University Teaching Hospital. The esteemed medical advisors on the committee include **Dr. Renee Ridzon**, Senior Program Officer, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, **Dr. Steven Kaplan**, Urologist, Weil Cornell Hospital, NYC, **Dr. Ira Sharlip**, Urologist, Chairman, MC Task Force, American Urology Association and **Dr. Emanuel Kayibanda**, General Surgeon, President of the Surgical Society of Rwanda.

An official update will be sent by the Chair of the committee. In general, we would request for you to review the PI report about the study (images, clinical data, etc) and then respond with your comments within 3 weeks days (or sooner) – i.e. around August. Needless to say, we most welcome your active participation in the form of visiting our country during the study; however this is not a prerequisite.