**Circumcision reduces HIV risk by 60 per cent**

A letter to the editor (Nation, October 7) misrepresented the science behind voluntary male circumcision based on a misunderstanding of the role of the foreskin in the acquisition of HIV.

Infact three randomized controlled trials conducted in Kenya, South Africa and Uganda found that getting circumcised reduces a man’s chances of becoming infected with HIV through vaginal sex by about 60 per cent. The results of these trials were so strong that the WHO and UNAIDs concluded in 2007 that “the efficacy of male circumcision in reducing male-to-female HIV transmission has now been proved beyond a reasonable doubt

**Geoffrey K. Menego, Kisumu**