

# Study reveals violence against women living with HIV

**KAMPALA**

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Violence against women living with HIV has long been associated with physical or emotional abuse perpetrated by intimate partners or family members.

However, new research has brought to light a far more complex reality, revealing that such violence is also

deeply entrenched in the very institutions, policies and social systems that are ostensibly designed to protect these women.

The study, conducted across Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania between 2025 and 2026, established that women living with HIV are confronted with evolving and multifaceted forms of violence that extend well beyond interpersonal abuse.

These encompass

discrimination in healthcare settings, exclusion from the workplace, technology-facilitated harassment and policies that inadvertently heighten stigma and expose women to the risk of retaliation.

The research was carried out by the International Community of Women Living with HIV East Africa under the THRIVE project, with financial support from the UN Trust Fund.