

Supplementary Materials 2 – Sensitivity Analysis with participants working in markets.

MARKETS ONLY. Prevalence of menstrual health needs, bivariate and multivariable associations between menstrual health needs and work absenteeism and discomfort during menstruation.

	Total % (mean)	Missed work n (%) / M (SD)	Did not miss work n (%) / M (SD)	PR (95%CI)	aPR (95%CI)‡	Would prefer to miss work n (%)	Would not prefer to miss n (%)	PR (95%CI)	aPR (95%CI)‡
Poverty	(4.68)	5.67 (3.98)	4.47 (3.70)	1.06 (0.98-1.14)	-	5.17 (3.95)	4.27 (3.58)	1.03 (1.01-1.05)	0.99 (0.98-1.02)
Managing menses									
Menstrual Practice Needs total score (0-3)	(0.55)	0.67 (0.49)	0.52 (0.39)	1.78 (1.19-2.66)	1.26 (0.90-1.77)	0.63 (0.44)	0.48 (0.37)	1.55 (1.28-1.87)	1.36 (1.17-1.59)
Few unmet needs	54.7	36 (15.1)	202 (84.9)			98 (41.2)	14 (58.8)		
Some unmet needs	42.8	32 (17.3)	153 (82.7)			94 (50.6)	92 (49.5)		
Many unmet needs	2.5	4 (36.4)	7 (63.6)			7 (63.6)	4 (36.4)		
Uses improvised materials at work	23.6	24 (23.5)	78 (76.5)	1.48 (1.16-1.89)	1.38 (1.05-1.80)	55 (53.9)	47 (46.1)	1.21 (0.95-1.53)	
Uses commercial materials at work	76.4	47 (14.2)	284 (85.8)	1.00	1.00	143 (43.1)	189 (56.9)	1.00	
Pain									
Experiences pain	80.2	67 (19.3)	81 (94.2)	2.92 (1.21-7.02)	2.88 (1.30-6.37)	171 (49.0)	178 (51.0)	1.47 (1.11-1.89)	1.39 (0.99-1.94)
Does not experience pain	19.8	5 (5.8)	281 (80.8)	1.00	1.00	28 (32.6)	58 (67.4)	1.00	1.00
Pain severity (1-10)		5.92 (2.96)	4.41 (3.37)	1.11 (1.07-1.15)	-	5.27 (3.30)	4.14 (3.30)	1.05 (1.02-1.09)	-
Social support at work									
Comfortable talking to someone	45.2	26 (13.3)	170 (86.7)	1.00		82 (41.6)	115 (58.4)	1.00	1.00
Not comfortable talking to someone	54.8	46 (19.3)	192 (80.7)	1.40 (1.06-1.85)	1.49 (1.02-2.17)	117 (49.2)	50.84 (121)	1.18 (0.98-1.41)	1.15 (1.02-1.30)
Has someone she could ask for help	40.8	34 (19.2)	143 (80.8)	1.00	-	81 (45.5)	97 (54.5)	1.00	-
Does not have someone	59.2	38 (14.8)	219 (85.2)	0.79 (0.53-1.15)	-	118 (45.9)	139 (54.1)	1.01 (0.88-1.15)	-
Sociocultural environment: Attitudes & norms									
Attitude: Menstruation should be kept secret									
Agree	64.4	48 (17.2)	231 (82.8)	1.09 (0.60-1.98)	-	134 (48.0)	145 (52.0)	1.14 (0.97-1.33)	0.98 (0.86-1.11)
Disagree	35.6	24 (15.6)	130 (84.4)	1.00	-	65 (41.9)	90 (58.1)	1.00	1.00
Attitude: Women should avoid work during menstruation for hygiene									
Agree	36.3	39 (24.8)	118 (75.2)	1.95 (1.36-2.80)	1.40 (0.88-2.23)	106 (67.1)	52 (32.9)	1.98 (1.67-2.34)	1.71 (1.44-2.02)
Disagree	63.7	33 (12.0)	242 (88.0)	1.00	1.00	92 (33.5)	183 (66.6)	1.00	1.00
Injunctive norm: Women are expected to keep menstruation secret									
Agree	75.6	58 (17.9)	267 (82.2)	1.45 (0.97-2.16)	1.04 (0.71-1.53)	154 (47.2)	172 (52.8)	1.21 (0.89-1.64)	-
Disagree	24.4	23 (12.4)	92 (87.6)	1.00	1.00	41 (39.1)	64 (61.0)	1.00	
Injunctive norm: Women are expected to stay home when menstruating									
Agree	17.9	28 (36.4)	49 (63.6)	2.88 (2.10-3.95)	2.49 (1.59-3.88)	55 (70.5)	23 (29.5)	1.75 (1.44-2.14)	1.39 (1.09-1.78)
Disagree	82.1	42 (11.9)	312 (88.1)	1.00	1.00	141 (39.8)	213 (60.2)	1.00	1.00
Most shoppers would avoid purchasing food from a menstruating women									
Agree	60.1	51 (19.7)	208 (80.3)	1.50 (1.04-2.19)	1.17 (0.77-1.77)	140 (53.9)	120 (46.1)	1.60 (0.99-2.58)	1.39 (1.07-1.80)
Disagree	39.9	21 (12.2)	151 (87.8)	1.00	1.00	57 (33.1)	115 (66.9)	1.00	1.00

PR: Prevalence Ratio. aPR: Adjusted prevalence ratio. CI: Confidence Interval. ‡ Confidence intervals using Kauer mann-Carroll correction were extreme due to the very small number of clusters (n=10), noted as problematic elsewhere,¹ thus CI's reported do not adjust for the small number of clusters

1. Thompson J, Hemming K, Forbes A, et al. Comparison of small-sample standard-error corrections for generalised estimating equations in stepped wedge cluster randomised trials with a binary outcome: A simulation study. *Statistical methods in medical research* 2021;30(2):425-39.

MARKETS ONLY. Associations between reported menstrual health needs and wellbeing measured using the WHO-5

Predictor	Model 1 (predictor with adjustment for age & poverty)		Model 2 (full multivariable model)	
	b (Std. Error)	95%CI	b (Std. Error)	95%CI
Age	-0.50 (0.11)	-0.75, -0.24	-0.41 (0.14)	-0.72, -0.09
Poverty	-1.98 (0.25)	-2.55, -1.41	-1.73 (0.27)	-2.33, -1.12
Managing menses				
Menstrual Practice Needs total score	-7.67 (1.41)	-10.85, -4.48	-6.55 (1.45)	-9.84, -3.26
Uses improvised materials at work (yes)	2.66 (1.53)	-0.80, 6.13	-	
Pain				
Experiences pain (yes)	-3.63 (2.13)	-8.44, 1.19	-	
Pain severity (1-10)	-0.52 (0.31)	-1.23, 0.18	-	
Social support at work				
Comfortable talking to someone (No)	-4.77 (1.68)	-8.57, -0.98	-5.22 (1.99)	-9.72, -0.71
Has someone she could ask for help (No)	-0.29 (2.00)	-4.83, 4.25	-	
Attitudes & norms				
Attitude: Menstruation should be kept secret (agree)	3.95 (2.01)	-0.60, 8.50	5.00 (2.40)	-0.43, 10.42
Attitude: Women should avoid work during menstruation for hygiene (agree)	4.81 (2.05)	0.18, 9.44	4.54 (2.39)	-0.86, 9.95
Injunctive norm: Women are expected to keep menstruation secret (agree)	-0.25 (2.18)	-5.18, 4.68	-	
Injunctive norm: Women are expected to stay home when menstruating (agree)	4.35 (1.39)	1.21, 7.50	2.37 (1.49)	-0.86, 9.95
Most shoppers would avoid purchasing food from a menstruating woman	-0.18 (2.25)	-5.26, 4.91	-	
Intercept			68.58 (1.49)	
Adj R ²			0.18	

b: regression coefficient. Std. Error: Robust standard error with cluster adjustment.