

PRESENTER:

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FAMILY TIES TOWARDS PCR
POSITIVE INFANTS CARE
AND MANAGEMENT

INTRODUCTION/ BACKGROUND

In 2003, there were 630,000 new pediatric HIV infections with 90% in SSA (Sub Saharan Africa), 1600 children are infected daily by their HIV positive mothers in developing countries. (UNAIDS, 2003).

In 2005, there were estimated 2.3 million children living with HIV/AIDS, 2million of whom reside in the sub-Saharan Africa (National coordinating centre for infectious diseases, 1999)

OBJECTIVE

- **The main aim of carrying out this study was to describe concerns surrounding reasons as to why the infants are not taken for care and treatment at various care centers after HIV diagnosis.**

METHODS/DESCRIPTION:

- **Observation guide and questionnaire was administered to 40 mothers of HIV positive infants in an infant cohort study in Karemo Division, Siaya District, Nyanza province.**

FINDINGS

- **2400 infants were enrolled in an observational study carried out by KEMRI/CDC within an infant TB study, 44 turned HIV PCR positive (among them 3 are on TB treatment and 1 on Isoniazid prophylaxis) but only 5 reported to patient support centre for HIV management. 4 infants died before HAART (Highly active antiretroviral therapy) initiation.**

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FINDINGS

<i>RESPONSES (n)</i>	<i>RESULTS(N %)</i>
<i>Women's vulnerability to abuse and pressure from spouse</i>	<i>20 (50)</i>
<i>Stigma and discrimination in health facilities</i>	<i>5 (12.5)</i>
<i>Stigma ,fear and silence</i>	<i>10 (25)</i>
<i>Perceptions about HIV/AIDS</i>	<i>5 (12.5)</i>

OUTCOMES

- **Of the 40 HIV PCR positive infants, 30 were visited at home twice after span of two weeks and others at the facility and counseled on importance of care and treatment. By the end of May 2010, 16 had been initiated on Anti-retroviral treatment, 22 on Cotrimoxazole and Multivitamins (CTX/MVT) whereas 2 have not reported to the patient support centre.**



CONCLUSION

HIV/ AIDS is not only a public health challenge but also a social concern as validated by the study that counseling response indeed created awareness and addressed the families concern towards appreciating HIV/AIDS management for their infants.

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- 2) **Study coordinator: Dr. Grace Kiringa**
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