



HIV Drug Resistance in
infants, children and
adolescents: Impact on
treatment and
outcomes

Dr Lee Fairlie
7 November 2017




USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Overview

- PMTCT and resistance
- How does PMTCT affect current ART choices?
- Current ART regimens in children and adolescents
- Acquired resistance
- Full circle.....Pregnant PHIV

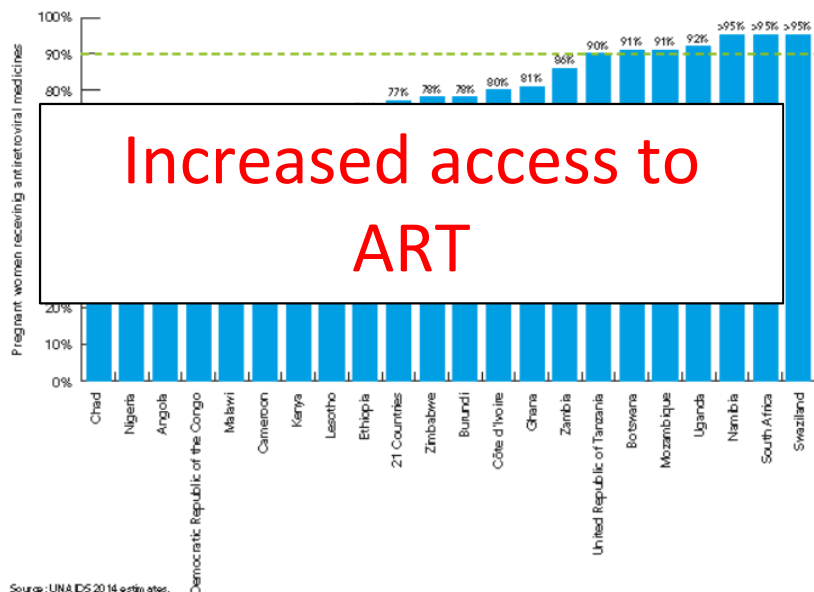




Prevention of mother-to-child transmission

Figure 4

Percentage of pregnant women living with HIV receiving antiretroviral medicines to prevent mother-to-child transmission in 21 Global Plan priority countries, 2014



New HIV infections among children (aged 0 - 14 years) and percentage of pregnant women living with HIV receiving antiretroviral medicine (either prophylaxis or lifelong therapy) to prevent mother-to-child transmission, global, 2005-2015

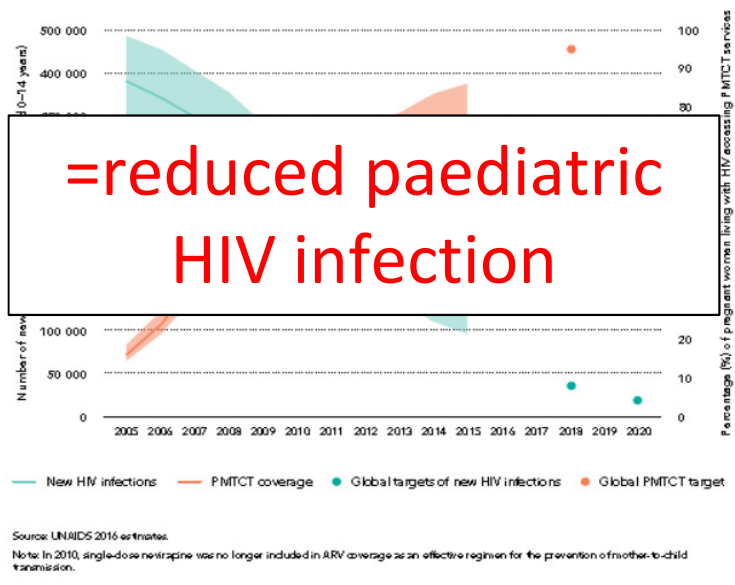
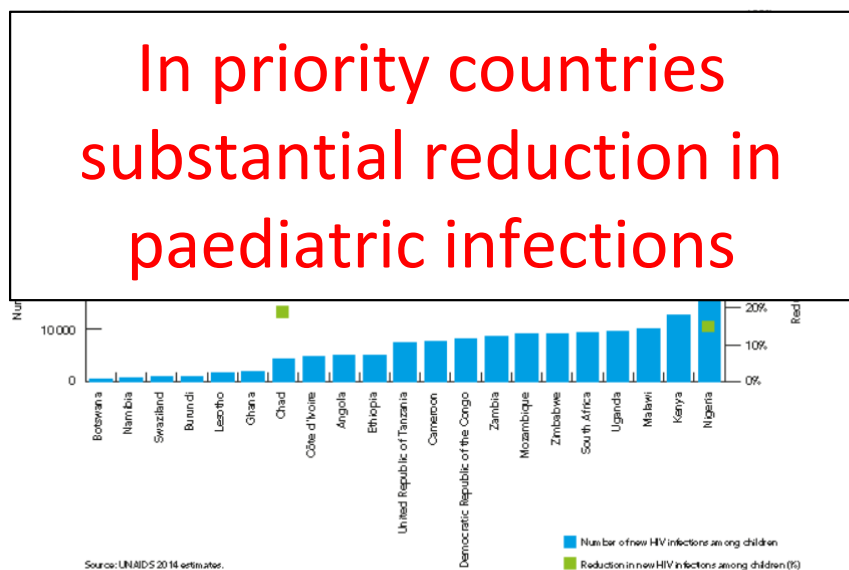
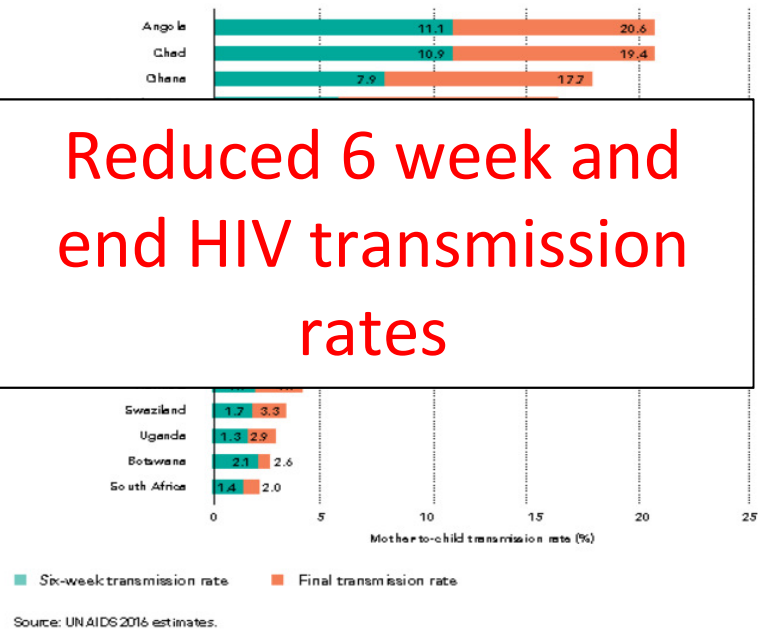


Figure 3

Number of new HIV infections among children in 2014 and percentage reduction in new HIV infections since 2009 in 21 Global Plan priority countries



Six-week and final mother-to-child transmission rates, by country, 2015



HIV resistance in pregnant women

Transmitted resistance:

- 3% (India) NRTI > NNRTI > PI;
- SA > 5%;
- 6% Republic of Congo;
- 16-17% (Rio de Janeiro) PR > NRTI = NNRTI (Brazil)

2° PMTCT (Pre-option B/B+)

- sdNVP: High percentage of women have RM after sdNVP → Treatment failure on NNRTI (6-18 months)
- Zidovudine monotherapy 14%
- ? Impact of zidovudine and TDF/FTC on NVP resistance



Option B/B+

- Postpartum period particularly challenging for adherence, VL suppression and resistance
- Most commonly first line EFV/FTC/TDF
- Low genetic barrier to resistance
- May result in transmitted resistance to infants/sexual partners
- Malawi PURE study: 55% of full cohort suppressed at 6 months (84% in retained and VL tested); 35% resistance, mainly NNRTI
- Uganda: small cohort-low drug resistance (6%)
- Tanzania: Ngarina et al 12 months PP 61% VL >400cps/ml and resistance 34%
- Increasing use of dolutegravir (Botswana) and some countries recommend Raltegravir or PI first line

U=U

Undetectable

Equals Untransmittable

May frequently
need Infant
prophylaxis





World Health Organization

4.4.7 Infant prophylaxis

NEW

Infants born to mothers with HIV who are at high risk of acquiring HIV² should receive dual prophylaxis with AZT (twice daily) and NVP (once daily) for the first 6 weeks of life, whether they are breastfed or formula fed (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence).

NEW

Breastfed infants who are at high risk of acquiring HIV, including those first identified as exposed to HIV during the postpartum period, should continue infant prophylaxis for an additional 6 weeks (total of 12 weeks of infant prophylaxis) using either AZT (twice daily) and NVP (once daily) or NVP alone (conditional recommendation, low-quality evidence).

Infants of mothers who are receiving ART and are breastfeeding should receive 6 weeks of infant prophylaxis with daily NVP. If infants are receiving replacement feeding, they should be given 4–6 weeks of infant prophylaxis with daily NVP (or twice-daily AZT) (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence for breastfeeding infants; strong recommendation, low-quality evidence for infants receiving only replacement feeding).

Consolidated guidelines on the use of antiretroviral drugs for treating and preventing HIV infection: recommendations for a public health approach. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2013 (<http://www.who.int/hiv/pub/guidelines/arv2013/download/en>).



- A 4-week neonatal zidovudine prophylaxis regimen can be used for full-term infants when the mother has received a standard antiretroviral therapy regimen (ART) during pregnancy with sustained viral suppression and there are no concerns related to maternal adherence (BII). **Otherwise, a 6-week course as part of a combination infant prophylaxis regimen is recommended (AI).**
- **Combination infant prophylaxis regimen is recommended in** infants at higher risk of HIV acquisition, including those born to HIV-infected women who:
 - Have not received antepartum or intrapartum ARV drugs (AI), or
 - Have received only intrapartum ARV drugs (AI), or
 - Have received antepartum ARV drugs but do not have viral suppression near delivery (BIII).



health

Department: Health
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Mother on ART but viral load not suppressed:			
1st line treatment failure in presence and review: whether as treatment	NVP + AZT daily for 12 weeks	Do birth HIV PCR Birth PCR positive : Start neonatal ART Birth PCR negative: Continue NVP + AZT until mother is suppressed on 2nd line ART Encourage breast feeding	It is assumed that with failed 1st line there likely is NVP resistance and exposure to increased likelihood of MTCT
2nd or 3rd line treatment and VL not suppressed	NVP + AZT daily Seek expert advice	Do birth HIV PCR Birth PCR positive : Start neonatal ART Birth PCR negative: Seek expert advice Advise not to breast feed and prescribe replacement feeding	Assume that with failed 1st + 2nd +/- 3rd-line ART there likely is current and archived resistance and increased likelihood of MTCT

Questions remaining.....

- Should we base PMTCT prophylaxis on VL monitoring?
- What is the impact of maternal resistance on HIV transmission to infants?
- Limited data to support triple therapy in infants...is more better?
- What should we do for breastfeeding infants where maternal VL is \uparrow ?



Extended pre-exposure prophylaxis with lopinavir-ritonavir versus lamivudine to prevent HIV-1 transmission through breastfeeding up to 50 weeks in infants in Africa (ANRS 12174): a randomised controlled trial

Nicolas Nagot*, Chipepo Kankasa*, James K Tumwine, Nicolas Meda, G Justus Hofmeyr, Roselyne Vallo, Mwiya Mwiya, Mary Kwagala, Hugues Traore, Amwe Sunday, Mandisa Singata, Chafye Siuluta, Eric Some, David Rutagwera, Desire Neboua, Grace Ndeezi, Debra Jackson, Valérie Maréchal, Dorine Neveu, Ingunn M S Engebretsen, Carl Lombard, Stéphanie Blanche, Halvor Sommerfelt, Claire Rakacewicz, Thorkild Tylleskärft, Philippe Van de Perre†, for the ANRS 12174 Trial Group‡

Findings Between Nov 16, 2009, and May 7, 2012, we enrolled and randomised 1273 infants and analysed 1236; 615 assigned to lopinavir-ritonavir or 621 assigned to lamivudine. 17 HIV-1 infections were diagnosed in the study period (eight in the lopinavir-ritonavir group and nine in the lamivudine group), resulting in cumulative HIV-1 infection of 1.4% (95% CI 0.4–2.5) and 1.5% (0.7–2.5), respectively. Infection rates did not differ between the two drug regimens (hazard ratio [HR] of lopinavir-ritonavir versus lamivudine of 0.90, 95% CI 0.35–2.34; $p=0.83$). Clinical and biological severe adverse events did not differ between groups; 251 (51%) infants had a grade 3–4 event in the lopinavir-ritonavir group compared with 246 (50%) in the lamivudine group.

Interpretation Infant HIV-1 prophylaxis with lopinavir-ritonavir was not superior to lamivudine and both drugs led to very low rates of HIV-1 postnatal transmission for up to 50 weeks of breastfeeding. Infant pre-exposure prophylaxis should be extended until the end of HIV-1 exposure and mothers should be informed about the persistent risk of transmission throughout breastfeeding.

EuroCoord-
CHAINEPICC
Mananas,
Amazonas



Pre-treatment drug resistance (Boerma et al):

Overall:

- Pre-treatment drug resistance (PDR) **42.7%** (95%CI 26.2%–59.1%) **PMTCT-exposed children**; **12.7%** among **PMTCT-unexposed children** (P=0.004)
- Increased RM in PMTCT-unexposed 2004-2013-**0-26.8%**
- NNRTI most common (32.4% exposed and 9.7% unexposed)
- **NNRTI 25%; NRTI 5.4%; PI 1.3%**
- NNRTI RM more common in children < 3 years
- In children **<3 years**, **46.1%** PMTCT-exposed children and **19.2%** PMTCT-unexposed children had PDR
- **> 3 years**, **36.2%** of **PMTCT-exposed** children and **9.3%** of PMTCT-unexposed children had PDR

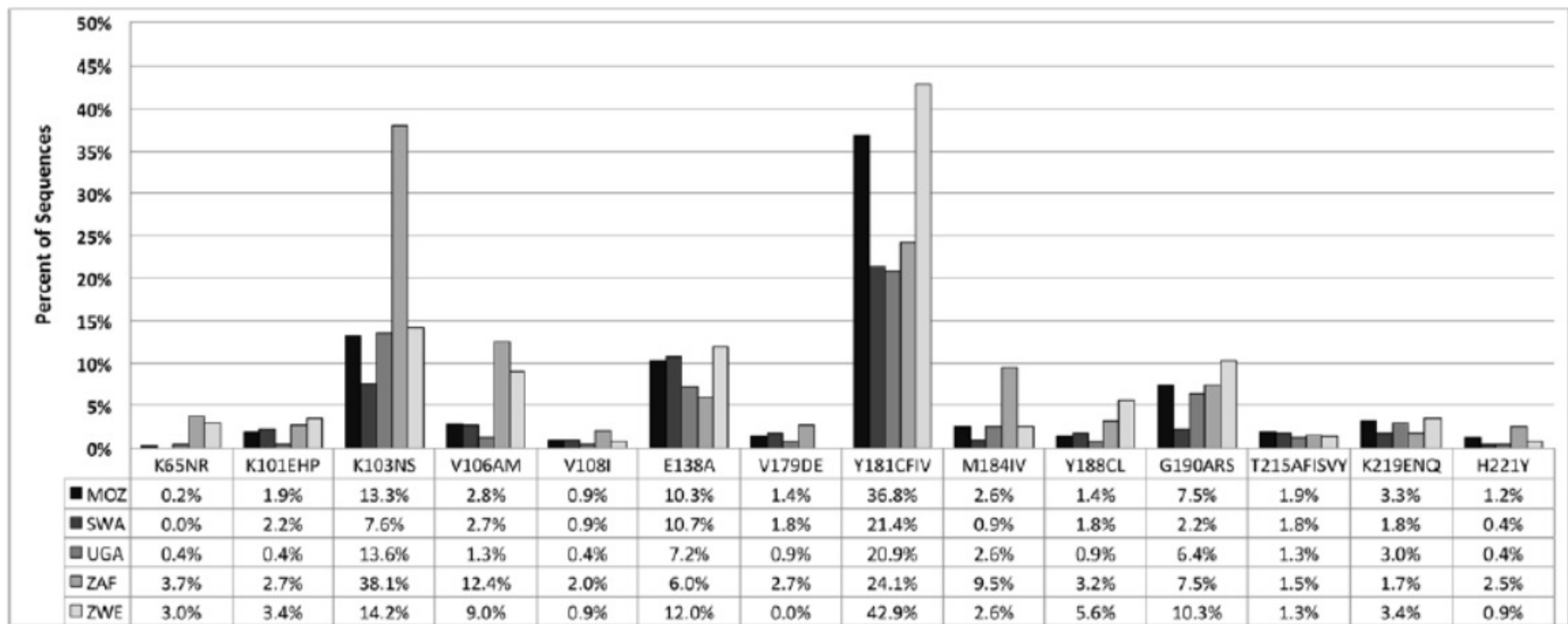
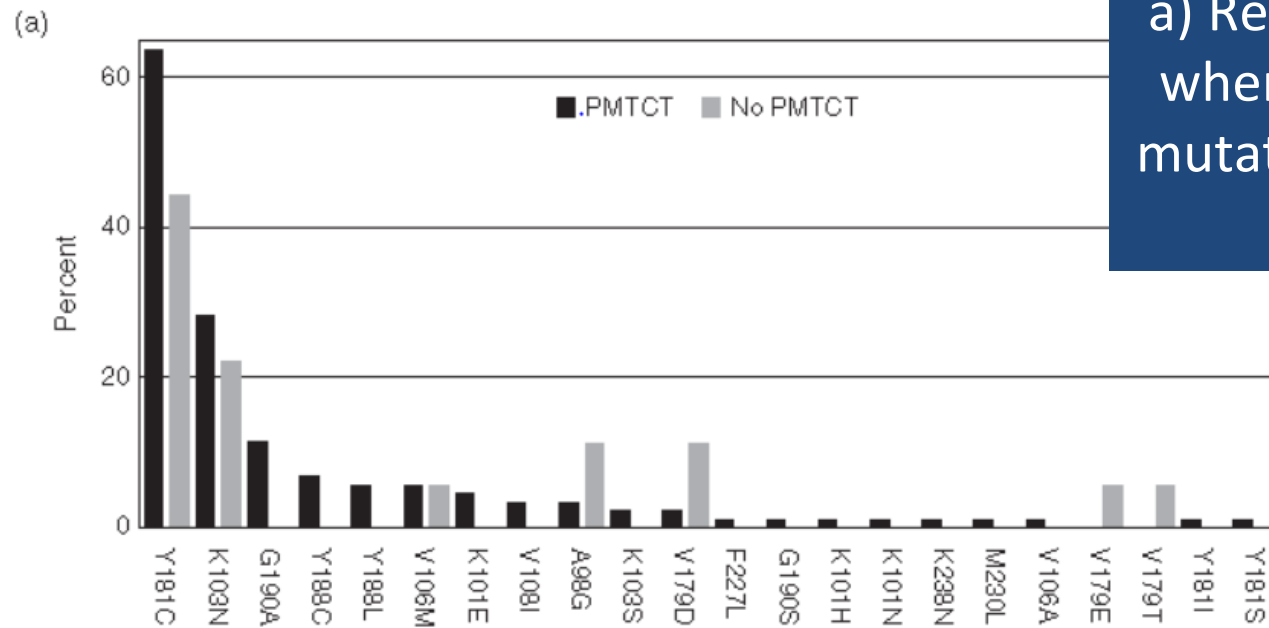


Figure 3. Frequency of nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor and nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor drug resistance mutations observed in children aged <18 months and diagnosed with human immunodeficiency virus through early infant diagnosis (n = 1450, children aged <18 months). Mutations are defined per the Stanford HIVdb algorithm and only those ones that are present in $\geq 1\%$ of all sequences analyzed are shown. Abbreviations: MOZ, Mozambique; SWA, Swaziland; UGA, Uganda; ZAF, South Africa; ZWE, Zimbabwe.

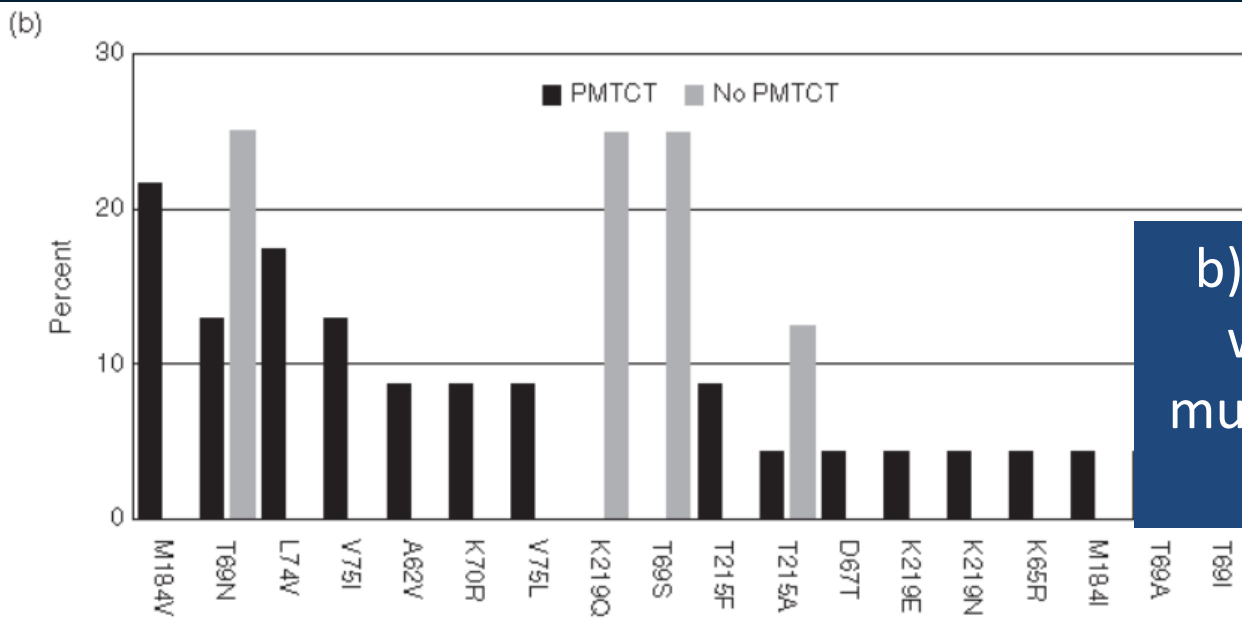
- Median age 4 months
 - Overall resistance 54% (mainly NNRTI-53%)
 - Neonatal ART exposure risk factor
 - Decreased resistance with increasing age
- Hudson, *CID*, 2017

Resistance mutations in HIV+ infants



a) Resistance mutations where at least 1 NNRTI mutation (88 PMTCT, 18 no PMTCT)

78% PMTCT exposed with NRTI resistance also had NNRTI resistance



b) Resistance mutations where at least 1 NRTI mutation (23 PMTCT, 8 no PMTCT)



How does this impact
ART choice in children?

GUIDELINES



CONSOLIDATED GUIDELINES ON
THE USE OF
ANTIRETROVIRAL DRUGS
FOR TREATING AND
PREVENTING HIV INFECTION

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A
PUBLIC HEALTH APPROACH

SECOND EDITION
2016

Table 4.8. Sequencing of ARV formulations for newborns starting treatment at around birth

	0–2 weeks	→ 2 weeks–3 months	→ 3–36 months
Preferred	AZT + 3TC + NVP	ABC or AZT + 3TC + LPV/r syrup	ABC or AZT + 3TC + LPV/r pellets
Alternative	AZT + 3TC + NVP		ABC or AZT + 3TC + LPV/r pellets
Special circumstances	AZT + 3TC + NVP	ABC or AZT + 3TC + RAL	

3TC lamivudine, ABC abacavir, AZT zidovudine, LPV lopinavir, NVP nevirapine, r ritonavir, RAL raltegravir.

Table 4.7. Summary of first-line ART regimens for children younger than 3 years

Preferred regimens	ABC ^a or AZT + 3TC + LPV/r ^b
Alternative regimens^c	ABC ^a or AZT + 3TC + NVP
Special circumstances^d	ABC ^a or AZT + 3TC + RAL ^e

Table 4.5. Summary of recommended first-line ART regimens for children 3–10 years of age

Preferred	ABC + 3TC + EFV
Alternatives	ABC + 3TC + NVP AZT + 3TC + EFV AZT + 3TC + NVP TDF + 3TC (or FTC) + EFV TDF + 3TC (or FTC) + NVP

3TC lamivudine, ABC abacavir, AZT zidovudine, EFV efavirenz, FTC emtricitabine, NVP nevirapine, TDF tenofovir

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

Paediatric European Network for Antiretroviral Treatment in HIV-1 Infection (PENTA) guidelines for treatment of HIV-1 infection 2015: optimizing health and quality of life for adult life

A Bamford,^{1*} A Turkova,^{2*} H Lyall,³ C Foster,³ N Klein,⁴ D Bastiani,⁵ P Clayden,⁹ M Della Negra,¹⁰ V Giacomet,¹¹ C Giaquinto,¹² D Gibb,¹³ E Nastouli,¹⁸ T Niehues,¹⁹ A Noguera-Julian,²⁰ P Rojo,²¹ C Rudin,²² SB Welch²⁵ (PENTA Steering Committee)

¹Department of Paediatric Infectious Diseases and Immunology, Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital, London, UK

²Medical Research Council Clinical Trials Unit, University College Healthcare NHS Trust, London, UK

³Radboud University Medical Centre, Nijmegen, The Netherlands

⁴Department of Paediatric Infectious Diseases, Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital, Rome, Italy, ⁵Our Lady's Hospital for Convalescent Invalids, Dublin, Dublin, Ireland, ⁹Meyer University Hospital, Florence University, Florence, Florence, Italy, ¹⁰Emilio Ribas Institute of Infectious Diseases, Sao Paulo, Brazil, ¹¹Hospital, University of Milan, Milan, Italy, ¹²Department of Paediatric Research Council Clinical Trials Unit, London, UK, ¹³Department of Paediatric Infectious Diseases, Florence, Florence, Italy, ¹⁵Department of Pediatrics, CHU Saint-Just, Saint-Just, France, ¹⁶Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust, Portsmouth, UK, ¹⁷Paediatric Infectious Diseases Department, Porto Central Hospital, Porto, Portugal, ¹⁸Imperial College London, London, UK, ¹⁹Centre for Paediatric Infectious Diseases, Krefeld, Krefeld, Germany, ²⁰Infectious Diseases Unit, Pediatrics Department, Hospital del Mar, Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain, ²¹12th of October Hospital, Madrid, Spain, ²²University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland, ²³Department of Paediatric Immunology and Infectious Diseases, Amsterdam Medical Centre, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, ²⁴Imperial College, London, UK

National consolidated guidelines for the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) and the management of HIV in children, adolescents and adults

24 December 2014

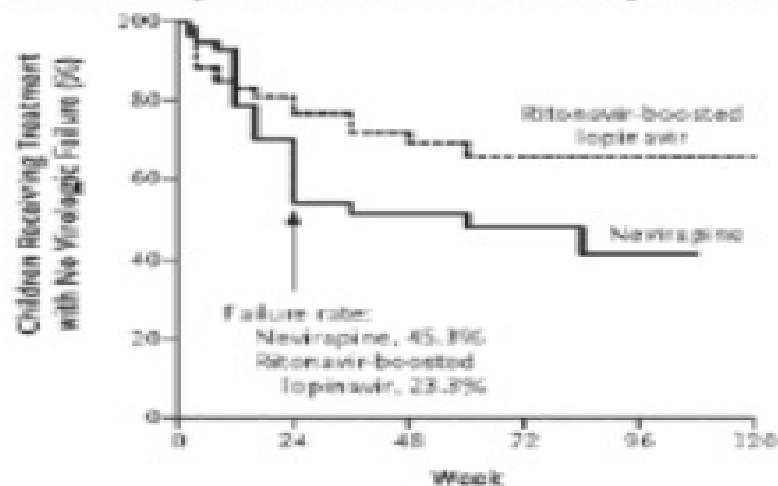
Similar recommendations



health

Department:
Health
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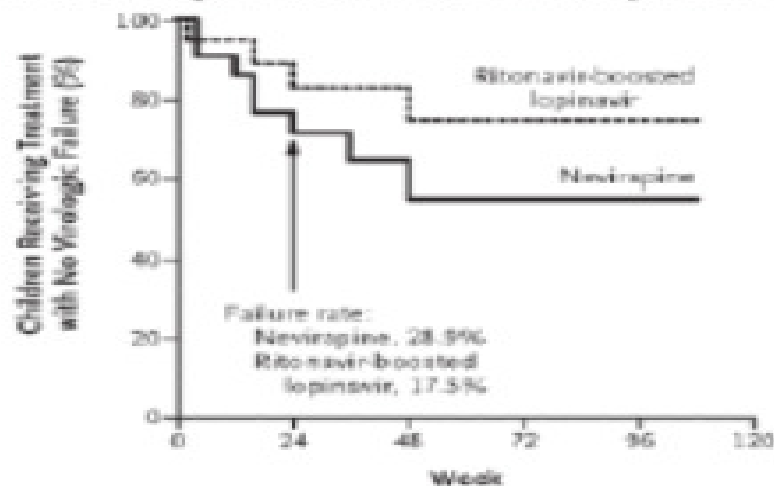
A Time to Virologic Failure or Discontinuation, Age <12 Mo



Failure rate:
Nevirapine, 45.3%
Ritonavir-boosted
lopinavir, 23.2%

No. at Risk	0	24	48	72	96	120
Nevirapine	60	51	18	9	2	
Ritonavir-boosted lopinavir	63	58	25	10	5	

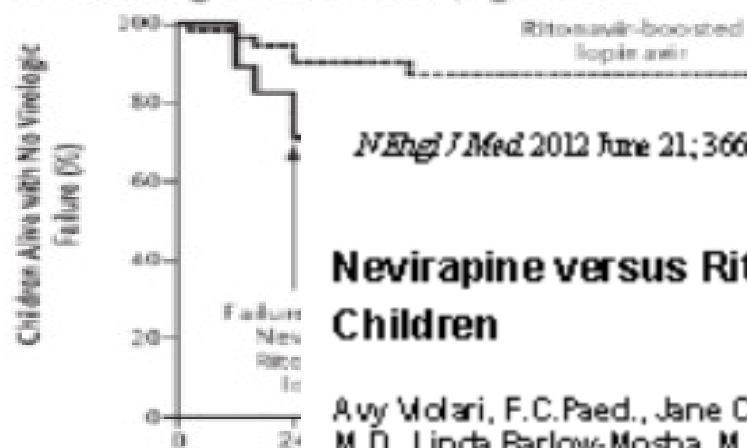
B Time to Virologic Failure or Discontinuation, Age <12 Mo



Failure rate:
Nevirapine, 28.9%
Ritonavir-boosted
lopinavir, 17.5%

No. at Risk	0	24	48	72	96	120
Nevirapine	23	15	7	5	2	
Ritonavir-boosted lopinavir	19	14	10	6	5	

C Time to Virologic Failure or Death, Age <12 Mo



Failure
Nev
Rit

No. at Risk	0	24
Nevirapine	60	31
Ritonavir-boosted lopinavir	63	44

D Time to Virologic Failure or Death, Age >12 Mo




NEngl J Med 2012 June 21; 366(25): 2380-2389. doi:10.1056/NEJMoa1113249.

Nevirapine versus Ritonavir-Boosted Lopinavir for HIV-Infected Children

Avy Volari, F.C.Paed., Jane C. Lindsey, Sc.D., Michael D. Hughes, Ph.D., Hilda A. Mujuru, M.D., Linda Barlow-Mosha, M.D., Portia Kamthunzi, M.D., Benjamin H. Chi, M.D., Mark F. Cotton, M.Med., Harry Moutrie, M.D., Sandhya Khadse, M.D., Werner Schimana, M.D., Raziya Bobat, M.D., Lynette Purdue, Pharm.D., Susan H. Eshleman, M.D., Ph.D., Elaine J. Abrams, M.D., Linda Millar, B.A., Elizabeth Petzold, Ph.D., Lynne M. McFerson, M.D., Patrick Jean-Philippe, M.D., and Paul Palumbo, M.D.

BUT.....

- In many LMIC LPV/r (and RTV) is not available:
 - Expensive
 - Storage difficult
 - Newer formulations such as pellets-limited access
 - FDA Black box warning- neonates < 2 weeks post conception age.....problem ↑ birth testing
 - NNRTIs still backbone of ART regimens in under 3 years in most SSA
 - And advantages to NNRTI (especially in older children)
 - More FDC options
 - Better tolerability than kaletra
 - Once daily regimen- adherence advantage
 - Lower long term metabolic toxicity
- 

What is the impact of using NNRTIs clinically?

ARROW Trial:

- VL response in children exposed vs not exposed to NVP→NVP-based regimen
- Similar VL suppression rates (<80 cps/ml) at week 144
- No difference in NNRTI or NRTI resistance mutations
- Option in LMIC especially those > 1 year even if NVP-exposed

Kay et al: Uganda: NVP-exposed infants initiated on NVP at median 8.3 months

- Probability of VL suppression at 18 months 56%
- Factors associated with VL suppression: increasing age, lower baseline VL and increased CD4%



NEVEREST(SDNVP exposure)

NEVEREST NVP

- Using primary endpoint of VL < 50 cps/ml switch group
- BUT those in switch group had a higher probability of VL > 1000 copies/ml (20%)
- Switch group 87% with VF had NNRTI resistance (67% Y181C)
- Pre-treatment NNRTI RM strongly associated with VL > 1000 copies/ml
- 31/143: 25 Y181C; 4 K103N
- At 156 weeks risks cps/ml similar in both groups
- All children in switch group had VL < 1000 copies/ml at 156 weeks

NEVEREST EFV

- Switch to EFV from 3 years with VL suppressed on LPV/r
- Lower probability of VL > 50 cps/ml and VF in the switch group (48 weeks)
- 3/4 with VF K103N mutation
- PMTCT exposure → Y181C predominates → may explain more success with EFV compared to NVP

VL monitoring is key-↑
frequency

Coovadia, *JAMA*, 2010; Kuhn, *Lancet*, 2012; Coovadia, *JAMA*, 2015



MONOD ANRS 12206 (Burkina Faso & Cote De Ivoire)

- Similar design to NEVEREST EFV
- 40% no PMTCT exposure
- 12 months similar rates viral suppression (< 500 cpls/ml) between arms
- Similar rates VF (> 1000 copies/ml)
- VF: 77% DRT
 - NNRTI 69% (K103N; Y181C)
 - 4 cross resistance to 2nd generation rilpivirine & etravirine
 - NRTI 46% (M184V)
 - 43% in each arm had NNRTI resistance mutations



EFV non-
inferior
to LPV/r

IeDEA:

- VL suppression rates in children initiating EFV-based ART through different ART eras
- PMTCT exposure not associated with VF



Dahourou, *BMC Med*, 2017; Fairlie, unpublished

A close-up, black and white photograph of a person's face, focusing on the nose and lips. The person's eyes are closed, and their lips are slightly parted. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of the skin and the contours of the nose and lips. The text is overlaid in a bright yellow color.

Acquired resistance in
children and adolescents

Children are more likely to develop VF +- resistance

- Poor adherence
 - Palatability of ART
 - Pill burden
 - Formulations eg no dispersible ABC/3TC & FDCs uncommonly available
- Treatment of co-disease especially TB
- Dependency on adult
- PMTCT
- Socio-economic factors

Adolescents:

- psychological and structural barriers
- peer acceptance
- disclosure
- emotional challenges of puberty

Treatment-Emergent Mutations and Resistance in HIV-Infected Children Treated with Fosamprenavir-Containing Antiretroviral Regimens

Lisa L. Ross^{1,1}, Mark F. Cotton², Haseena Cassim³, Eugeny Voronin⁴, Naomi Givens⁵, Jorg Sievers⁵, and Katharine Y. Cheng² For the APV29005 & APV20002 Pediatric Study Groups



Tackling virological failure in HIV-infected children living in Africa

Mohammad-Ali Jenabian, Cecilia T Costiniuik, Ralph-Sydney Mboumba Bouassa, Linda Chapdeleine Mekue Mouafo, Thomas V Brogan & Laurent Bélec

Expert Review of

Anti-infective Therapy

Treatment Failure in HIV-Infected Children on Second-line Protease Inhibitor-Based Antiretroviral Therapy

Rapeepan Saaysed,^{1,2} Nicole Ngo-Giang-Huong,^{1,3,4} Nicolas Salvadori,^{1,2} Tim R. Cressey,^{1,3,4} Suparat Kanjanavanit,⁵ Pornchai Techakunakorn,⁶ Sawitree Krikajornkitti,⁷ Sakulrat Srirojana,⁸ Laddawan Laemanit,^{1,3} Suwalai Chalermnanontanon,^{1,3} Marc Lallemaant,^{1,3,4} Souhie Le Cour,^{1,3,4} Kenneth McIntosh,¹⁰ Patrinee Traisathit,^{1,11,12}



HIV-1 Drug Resistance and Second-line Treatment in Children Randomized to Switch at Low versus Higher RNA Thresholds

Linda Harrison, MSc¹, Ann Melvin, MD², Susan Fiscus, PhD², Yacine Said, PhD⁴, Eleri Nastouli, MD⁵, Lynda Harper, MSc⁶, Alexandra Compagnucci, MD⁴, Abdel Babiker, PhD⁶, Ross McKinney, MD⁷, Diana Gibb, MD MRCP MSc⁶, Gareth Tudor-Williams, MD⁷, and the PENPACT-1 (PENTA 9/PACTG 390) Study Team



Factors Associated with the Development of Drug Resistance Mutations in HIV-1 Infected Children Failing Protease Inhibitor-Based Antiretroviral Therapy in South Africa

Theresa M. Rossouw^{1,2*}, Ute D. Feucht^{2,6}, George Melikyan³, Gisela van Dyk¹, Winifred Thomas², Nicolette M. du Plessis², Theunis Avenant²



Antiretroviral Drug Resistance Among Children and Youth in the United States With Perinatal HIV

Russell B. Van Dyke,¹ Kunjal Patel,² Ron M. Kagan,² Brad Karalius,² Shirley Traite,⁴ Meyer III,⁵ Katherine K. Tassiopoulos,² George R. Seago III,² Rybolt,⁶ Sandra Burchett,⁷ and Rohan Hazra², for the Pediatric HIV/AIDS y (PHACS)



Higher rates of triple-class virological failure in perinatally HIV-infected teenagers compared with heterosexually infected young adults in Europe

A. Judd,¹ R. Lodwick,² A. Noguera-Julian,^{2,4,5} DM Gibb,¹ K. Butler,⁶ D. Costagliola,⁷ C. Sabin,² A. van Sighem,⁸ B. Ledergerber,⁹ C. Torti,¹⁰ A. Mocroft,² D. Podzamczak,¹¹ M. Dornica,¹² S. De Wit,¹³ N. Obel,¹⁴ F. Dabis,^{15,16} A. Cozzi-Lepri,¹⁷ F. Garcia,¹⁷ NH Brockmeyer,¹⁸ J. Warszawski,¹⁹ M. Gonzalez-Tome,²⁰ C. Massini,²¹ G. Toalombi,²² R. Zangerle,²³ J. Ghosh,^{24,25} A. Castagna,²⁶ G. Fikriehauer,²⁷ C. Stephan,²⁸ L. Meyer,^{29,30} MA Campbell,³¹ G. Chen^{15,16,27} and A. Phillips² The Pursuing Later Treatment Options II (PLATO II) Project Team for the Collaboration of Observational HIV Epidemiological Research Europe (COHERE) in EuroCoord



Accumulation of HIV-1 drug resistance after continued virological failure on first-line ART in adults and children in sub-Saharan Africa

T. Sonia Boender^{1,2*}, Cissy M. Kityo³, Regina S. Boerma^{1,2}, Raph L. Hamers⁴, Pascale Ondo⁵, Maureen Wellington⁶, Mwanza Gushiki⁷, Temugetai Mwangi⁸, Elizabeth Kwoha⁹, Alusi Sulaimon Akarimu⁷, Marietta E. Botes¹ and Kim C. E. Sigleff^{1,4}



Virologic Failure Among Children Taking Lopinavir/Ritonavir-containing First-line Antiretroviral Therapy in South Africa

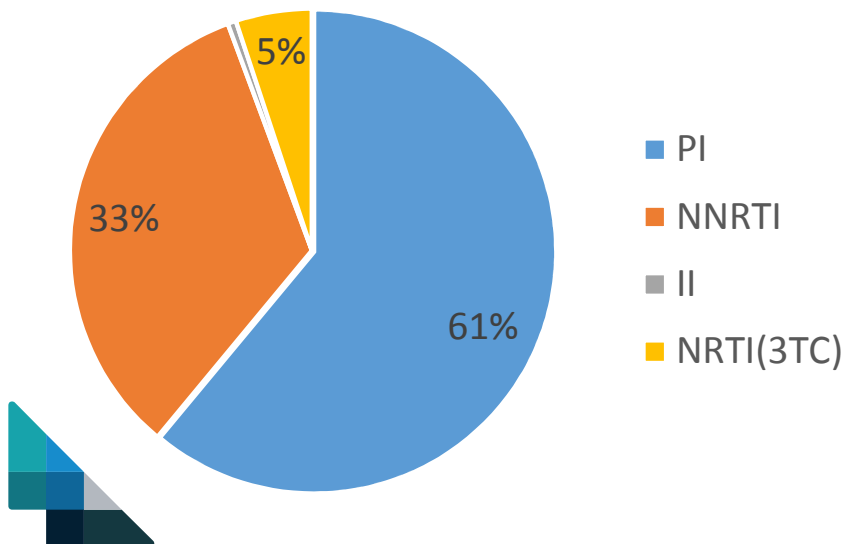
Tommy Meyers, PhD,* Shobana Savary, MPH,† Jessica Y. Wong, MPH,† Harry Moultrie, MPH,† Francisco Pinillos, MD,† Lee Farrie, MD,† and Gert van Zyl, PhD,†



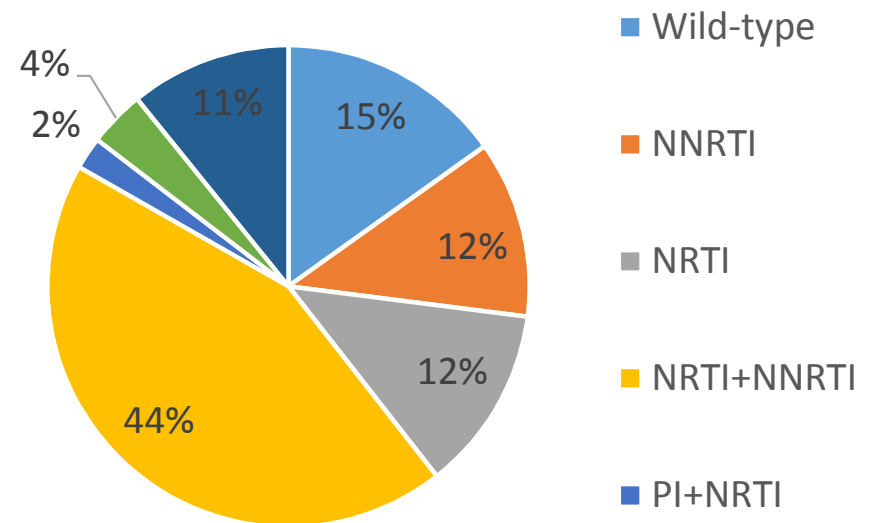
HIVDR in Paediatric Patients failing ART

- A national cross sectional facility based study of HIVDR among children on ART who are experiencing VF was implemented in 2017
 - 45 sentinel ART sites in 9 provinces
 - Sample size: 1475 specimens spanning 1-5, 5-10, 10-15 and 15 – 19 years age groups

Regimen

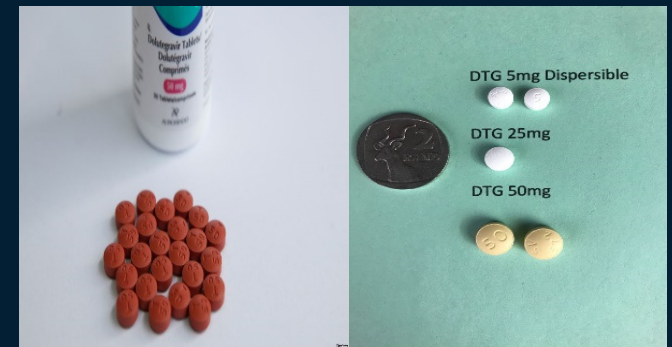


Resistance patterns



What does this mean for future regimens

- Will need DRT
 - Prolonged NNRTI-based ART
 - Failing PI-based ART (early if previous TB)
- Access to 2nd and 3rd line regimens
- Dolutegravir.....
- Still need dosing and registration down to youngest ages



Clinical associations of white matter damage in cART-treated HIV-positive children in South Africa

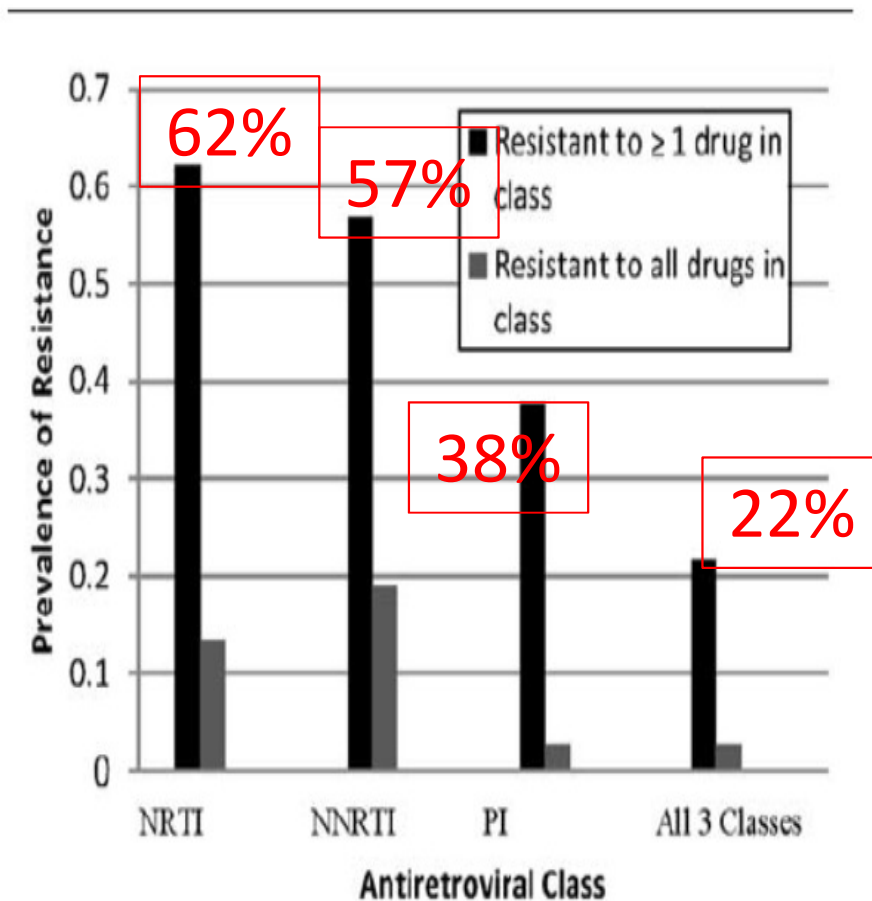
Jacqueline Hoare • Jean-Paul Fouche • Nicole Phillips •
John A. Joska • Kirsten A. Donald • Kevin Thomas •
Dan J. Stein

Abstract A range of factors contributes to white matter damage in vertically infected HIV-positive children. These may include combination antiretroviral treatment (cART) regimen, sociodemographic factors, nutritional hematological status, HIV-relevant clinical variables, and cognitive functioning. We explored associations between a number of these factors and diffusion tensor imaging (DTI) measures in 50 cART-treated children aged 6 to 15 years. Fractional anisotropy (FA), mean diffusion (MD), radial diffusion (RD), and axial diffusion (AD) were derived from 48 cerebral white matter regions. Significant associations between a number of the clinical variables and white matter integrity were found.

Decreased FA, a measure of neuronal damage, was associated with being on second-line cART, low hemoglobin, and younger age. Children with increased MD, a measure of neuronal damage, were younger, had reduced albumin and hemoglobin, and increased viral load. Decreased AD, a measure of axonal damage, was associated with increased viral load and total protein, decreased albumin and hemoglobin, younger age, poorer fronto-striatal cognition, and being on second-line cART. Increased RD, a measure of myelin loss, was associated with younger age, low current CD4 count, low albumin and hemoglobin, and higher viral load and total protein. The current findings underline the possible association of first-line

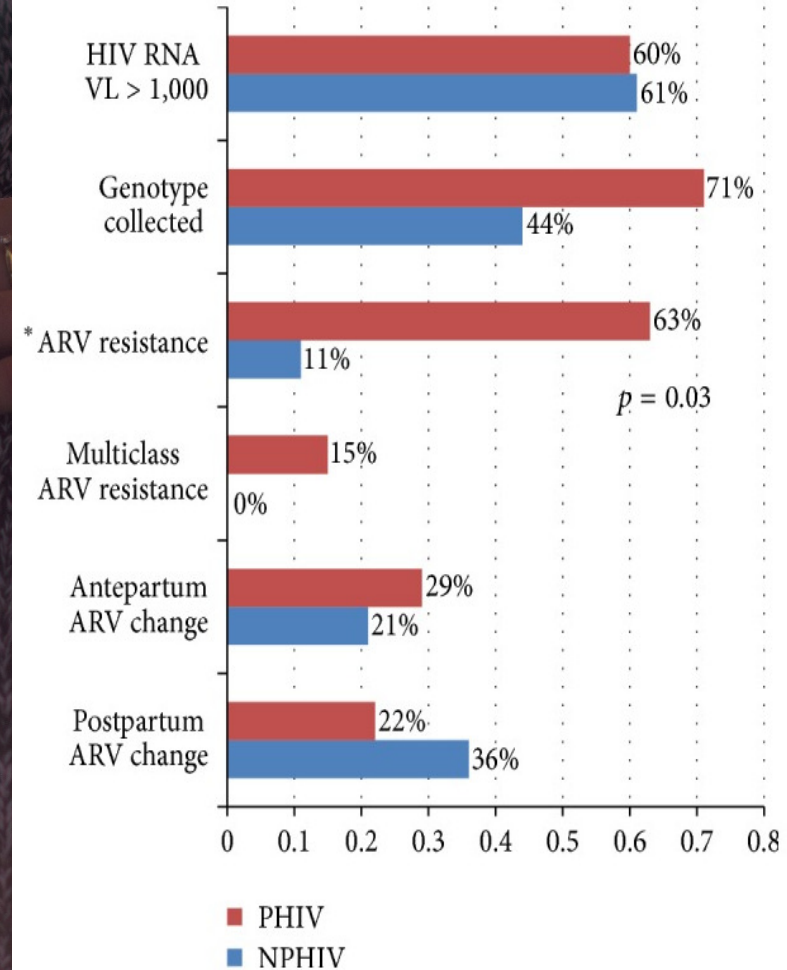
The findings emphasize the need for early identification of adherence problems or resistance to first-line cART in HIV-infected children living in sub-Saharan Africa, improved access to support with issues relating to poor adherence, and the integration of antiretroviral treatment programs with other health-care services, such as nutritional support, and the importance of examining the effects of HIV disease in the context of treatable clinical variables such as anemia. A longitudinal study assessing HIV-relevant clinical variables and nutritional hematological predictors of white matter damage is needed to clarify the associations observed in this study.

Full circle.....



Tassiopoulos, *CID*, 2015:

- Sexual Initiation associated with increased non-adherence
- 62% unprotected SI
- 42% VL > 5000 cps/ml



Lazenby, *Inf Dis O&G*, 2016:

- More likely to have increased DR
- Increased likelihood of nonstandard ART regimens
- No increased AE

Conclusions

- Optimised maternal ART regimens and VL suppression key =no transmission
 - Current infant prophylaxis drugs may not be effective if maternal resistance
 - Paediatric ART is complex in face of resistance (Transmitted and acquired)
 - Newer drugs (dolutegravir) hold promise but still need completed dosing, safety, efficacy and registration
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