

# Future Directions for IMPAACT in Perinatal Transmission



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# Future Directions for PMTCT



- There have been great advances in PMTCT research over the years with treatment guidelines evolving.
- The Option B+ strategy combined with recent findings from the START study and the 90-90-90 strategy will likely result in broader access and utilization of combination antiretroviral therapy.
- This will likely drive down further new pediatric HIV infections which are now less than 2% in many settings.

# Where are the gaps and opportunities?



- Where then is the best place for perinatal prevention efforts?
- Should it be a separate entity or within general HIV services or treatment services. IF combined, how do we effectively make that transition?

# Overall Safety and Long-Term Outcome of Drug Exposure



- Recent research has shown that there is increased risk of prematurity with use of HAART.
- Need to address longer term safety / adverse outcomes of specific ART regimens on child growth and development and Maternal Health.
- What is the risk of emergence of resistance with various ART regimens during pregnancy

# Opportunities for PK and safety of new drugs



- As newer ARV drugs come to the market for adult HIV treatment,

The PK and safety of newer ARV drugs in pregnancy and newborns remains a high priority to address.

# Opportunities for primary HIV prevention



- What prevention opportunities exist for high risk negative women during pregnancy and breastfeeding?
  - Adolescents
    - Adolescents are at high risk of HIV infection
    - Adolescents vulnerable to pregnancy with increased risk of HIV infection to infant
    - Adolescent friendly HIV services are still few.
  - Other categories of women?
    - There is a need to promote PREP studies among adolescents and other high risk women to reduce HIV transmission to infants.

# What are the other perinatal areas of interest?



- Recent data shows devastating effects of the ZIKA virus on newborns.
  - Would this be the way to go?
  - What is the prevalence of Zika virus among pregnant women?
  - What are the interactions of HIV during pregnancy with other co-infections e g Zika virus?

# Conclusion



- PMTCT has made great strides in reducing new pediatric infections.
- Increased access to HAART by women and evolving models of care
- Studies on Long term safety of drugs in pregnant women and their children still important.
- Studies on PK and safety of new drugs are warranted
- Primary prevention studies for high risk women is a priority.
- New diseases emerging - Zika virus
- How do we move forward perinatal prevention efforts?