

# PMTCT GUIDELINES

## RATIONALE AND GOING FORWARD

Dr HM Sebitloane  
Chief Specialist (Outreach)  
Dept of O+G  
NRMSM

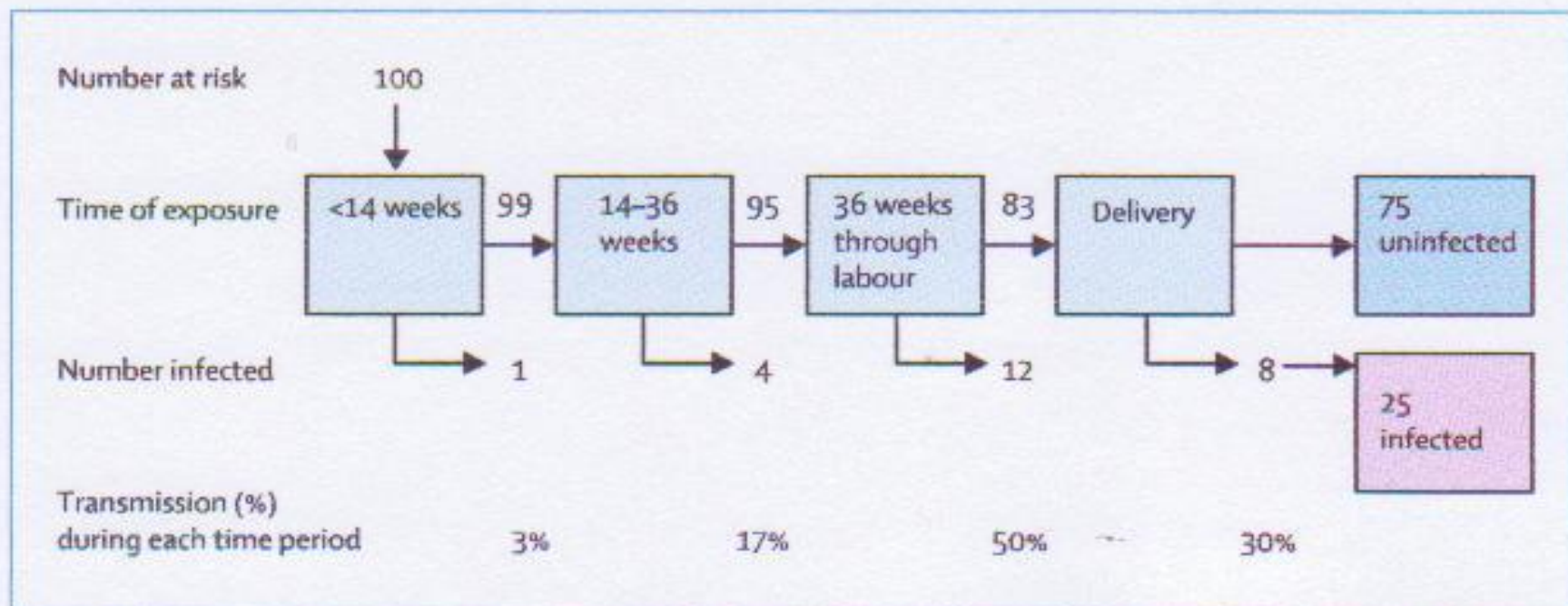
# SA Background

- Population: 48m
- Annual number of deliveries: 1,2m
- 97% of women attend the first ANC
- 71% of women attend 5<sup>th</sup> ANC visit
- 97% of pregnant women accessing syphilis testing
- 95% have access annual skilled attendance at birth
- 95% deliver at health facilities

# Epidemiological data

- HIV prevalence in the general population: 12%
- HIV prevalence among pregnant women: 29.1%
- Uptake of PMTCT >85%

# Timing of transmission



**Figure 2: Estimation of timing of mother-to-child HIV-1 transmission in a non-breastfeeding population**  
Estimates are based on a hypothetical cohort of 100 children born to HIV-infected women without any interventions. Upper line numbers indicate number of children at risk for infection. Adapted from reference 6.

# What did we know and when did we know it? Perinatal HIV Clinical Trial Results

1994

2004

## 1994 U.S. AZT Trial ACTG 076

- 67% reduction in transmission

## 1998 Thai Bangkok short AP/IP AZT trial

- 50% reduction in transmission

## 1998 Cote d'Ivoire short AP/IP AZT trials

- 37% reduction in transmission (breastfeeding)

## 1999 PETRA AZT/3TC trial (6 wk results)

- 50% reduction with longest arm.
- 38% reduction with the IP/PP arm

1999 Uganda 2-dose IP/PP NVP trial (HIVNET 012)  
• 47% reduction in transmission (breastfeeding)

## 2003 DITRAME + 1201.1

- 4.7% TR with AZT/3TC & IP/PP NVP

## 2002 Cote d'Ivoire DITRAME +

- 6.2% TR with AZT & IP/PP NVP

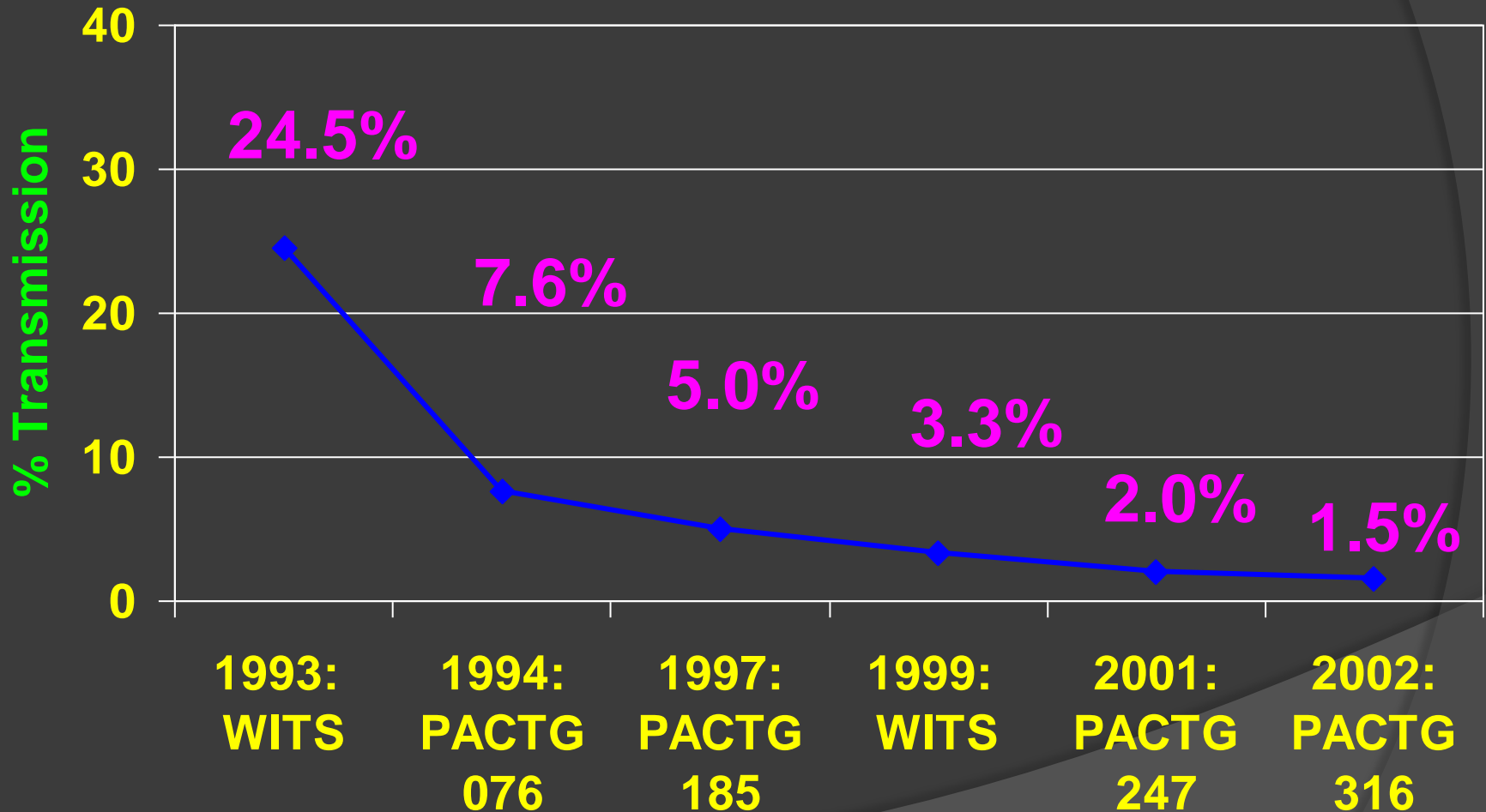
## 2000 Thailand Long vs short AZT regimens

- 4% TR in LL (non BF)

## 2004 Thailand PHPT

- <2% AZT + NVP

# Prevention of MTCT in the US



# History of SA PMTCT program

1999 HIVNET 012  
(13-14%)

2001 – pilot sites  
(PETRA and SAINT)

2004 – Thai regimen –  
AZT +sd NVP

2003 – PMTCT regimen  
of sd-NVP (20%)

WHO guidelines in 2006

2008 – guidelines to include  
AZT frm 28wks and HAART  
for <200

Rapid advice 2009 /  
implemented 2010

2010– HAART for <350,  
Dual for >350 frm 14wks  
AZT for infant x4wks (<5%)

2006	2009/2010
ART eligible – CD 4 <200 or ≤200 or <350 with WHO stages 3 or 4	ART eligible – CD 4 ≤350 or WHO stage 3 or 4
If not, for AZT from 28wks +sd-NVP during labour	Maternal 3 drug regimen seen as equivalent to AZT (+sd-NVP) Start earlier at 14wks
Infant = AZT syrup for 1wk or 4 wks if maternal therapy <28wks	Infant – 4 wks of AZT for all – regardless of maternal therapy
No recommendation for mom or infant ARV's if mom breastfeeding	Maternal and infant ARV's if mom breastfeeding



# WHO eligibility criteria for pregnant women

- ⦿ CD 4  $\leq$ 350 regardless of clinical stage
- ⦿ CD 4  $>$  350 – if sympt ( WHO 3 or 4)
- ⦿ Start asap irrespective of GA
- ⦿ Preferred regimen –
  - AZT +3TC +NVP or
  - AZT +3TC +EFV (not 1<sup>st</sup> trimester)
  - Alternative – TDF +3TC (FTC) +NVP (EFV)

# Those not qualifying

## Option A:

- AZT 300mg bd from 14wks
- AZT 300hr'ly in labour +sd NVP
- Tail cover (?maintained from 2006)

## Option B:

triple therapy in pregn +BF

**Infant** – AZT or NVP daily for 4 - 6wks or until 1wk after cessation of BF

# Rationale behind changes

- **Optimal timing and eligibility** for ART initiation in non-pregnant adults
- **Timing of transmission** (with or without b/feeding) and benefits of **early initiation** of ARV during pregn
- **Safety** of 3drug regimen for use during pregnancy
- More countries ready to expand more effective PMTCT services

# Why 350

- ⦿ Sufficient data from non-pregn adults of benefits of earlier initiation
- ⦿ Accounts for 40% of pregn HIV infected women
- ⦿ Accounts for >75% of MTCT risk and >80% of pp transmission
- ⦿ Account for 85% of maternal deaths within 2yrs of delivery

# Efficacy of ARV in reducing MTCT

- HAART for PMTCT - <2% in developed / developing countries
  - 2.4% in Thai study (20% of women with CD 4 <200)
  - AZT from 28wks +sd-NVP (mom not eligible) – 2% in PHPT-2
- Kesho Bora – women CD 4 200 – 500, btwn 28 - 36wks
  - **HAART =1.8% vs dual =2.2% (NS)**

# What to start

Start one of the following regimens in ART-naïve individuals (for maternal HAART or for PMTCT)

Preferred	Alternative
<b>AZT + 3TC + EFV</b> AZT + 3TC + NVP	TDF + 3TC or FTC + EFV TDF + 3TC or FTC + NVP

- EFV – no convincing evidence of teratogenecity
- No superiority of AZT over TDF / no concerns of TDF from RCT's

# Drug safety during pregnancy

- NVP associated with hepato-toxicity when initiated at >250
- EFV or alternatively LPV/r
  - Use of PI to avoid this in women >250
  - Side effects –**dislipidaemia** / N/V/loose stools /**Hyperglycemia**
  - No concern of drug resistance after discontinuation
  - LPV/r levels reduced during 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester but no need to adjust dosage

# NVP @ higher CD 4

*“The review of NVP safety in pregnant women with CD4 count 250–350 cells/mm<sup>3</sup> did not confirm an increased risk of serious adverse events and the panel concluded that the benefits of using NVP in this situation outweigh the risks of not initiating ART.”*

*The panel was unable to conclude from the evidence reviewed whether there are benefits associated with the use of EFV vis a vis NVP in pregnant women after the first trimester and with higher or unknown CD4 cell counts, although more than half of the panel members preferred EFV in these situations.”*



# EFV during pregnancy

- Rash and hepatitis can occur
- 5 retrospective cases and 1 prospective case of NTD in humans exposed to EFV in 1<sup>st</sup>/3
- Meta analysis of 11 prospective and 5 retrospective cases with 1<sup>st</sup> /3 exposure – 1132 exposed to EFV vs 7163 non exposed – RR=0.87 (0.61-1.24) (Ford, 2010)
- 2.9% overall birth defects

# OCTANE (A5208)

- ⊙ Octane 1 – women with prev exposure to sd-NVP
  - TDF/FTC/NVP (n=120) – VF or death=26%
  - TDF/FTC/LPVr (n=120) VF or death =8% (p=0.0004)
- ⊙ Octane 2 – women with no prev exposure
  - TDF/FTC/NVP (n=249) – VF or death=17%
  - TDF/FTC/LPVr (n=251) VF or death =20% (NS even with ITT)

# Tail therapy

- NVP has long half life and low genetic barrier
- NNRTI resistance ff sd exposure to sd-NVP up to 60%
- Resistance can be detected up to 12m ff exposure in plasma and cellular provirus
- 1wk combivir reduced NVP resistance from 60 – 10% but risk not eliminated (TOPS study, McIntyre)
- NNRTI based HAART in women with prev exposure to sd-NVP impaired optimal viral suppression (Octane study)

# Truvada

## A5207 7 vs 21 days

- AZT /3TC
- Kaletra
- Truvada (TDF +FTC/emtricitabine)
- ⊙ All equivalent, less resistant mutations if taken for 21 days
- ⊙ Has long half life, already used in PrEP
- ⊙ trials of stat dose vs combivir x7d almost completed

# infant

There are two choices for HIV-positive women who breastfeed and are not taking ART:

- **If a woman received zidovudine during pregnancy, daily nevirapine is recommended for her child from birth until the end of the breastfeeding period.**

Or

- If a woman received a three-drug regimen during pregnancy, a continued regimen of three-drug prophylaxis is recommended for the mother until the end of the breastfeeding period.

## 6. REGIMENS

*Table 1: Standardised national ART and ARV regimens for women who are HIV positive and pregnant and their infants*

Maternal regimens		
Woman	Regimen	Comment
<b>Eligible for lifelong ART</b> (i.e. CD4 $\leq$ 350 or WHO clinical stage 3 or 4)	TDF + 3TC/FTC + NVP	Start lifelong ART within 2 weeks
<b>Currently on lifelong ART</b>	Continue ART	Substitute EFV with NVP if in first 12 weeks of pregnancy
Contraindication to TDF (renal disease)	AZT+ 3TC + NVP	
<b>Not eligible for ART</b> i.e. CD4 > 350 and WHO stage 1 or 2	AZT from 14 weeks sdNVP + AZT 3hrly in labour TDF + FTC single dose (stat) after delivery	
<b>Unbooked and presents in labour</b>	sdNVP + AZT 3hrly in labour TDF + FTC single dose after delivery	Assess maternal ART eligibility before discharge

# Success??

- Evaluation of current PMTCT program done last year, (6<sup>th</sup> IAS, 2011)
- Good coverage of 6 wks immunization
- DBS from 565 facilities – 30% HIV exposed (vs 31% from national data)
- 34% were on HAART and 20% exclusive BF; 62% no BF
- Exclusive BF and HAART both beneficial

# TR

- ⦿ Nationally – 3.5%
- ⦿ Provinces
  - NC – 1.7% (15.6%)
  - FS – 6% (31.1%)
  - KZN – 2.8%(43.9%)

(c/section not helpful)



# Challenges

- ⦿ Increase dual therapy uptake in ANC (still 5% unbooked)
- ⦿ Early initiation of HAART in 40% of pt CD 4 < 350
  - Contributes to 90% of maternal deaths
- ⦿ Increased testing for infants

# SA and MDG's

1. To eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. To achieve universal primary education
3. **To promote gender equality and empower women**
4. **To reduce child mortality**
5. **To improve maternal health**
6. **To combat HIV/AIDS**, malaria and other diseases
7. To ensure environmental sustainability
8. To develop a global partnership for development

between 1998 and 2007, the maternal mortality rate leapt from 150 to 625 deaths for each 100,000 live births. That means South Africa, sub-Saharan African's economic powerhouse, has no hope of meeting the U.N. MDG that require 38 deaths per 100,000 births by 2015



South Africa

**“Stop Making Excuses”**

Accountability for Maternal Health Care in South Africa

**HUMAN  
RIGHTS  
WATCH**

# “Quotes”

- “While many sub-Saharan African countries are not on track to meet their MDG targets, South Africa is one of only six countries in sub-Saharan Africa that made no progress in reducing maternal deaths by 2008, and one of five (together with Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, and Zimbabwe) that experienced the largest percentage increases”

Ke a leboga