#### Factors associated with HIV infection despite overall low transmission rates in HIV Exposed Infants in rural Kenya

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Okoko N.A.<sup>1</sup>, Owuor K.<sup>1</sup>, Lewis-Kulzer J.<sup>1,3</sup>, Owino G.<sup>1</sup>, Ogolla I.<sup>1</sup>, Wandera R.<sup>4</sup>, Bukusi E.A.<sup>1,3</sup>, Cohen C.R.<sup>1,3</sup>, Abuogi L.<sup>1,2</sup>











## Affiliations

- Family AIDS Care and Education Services (FACES),
  Research Care and Training Program (RCTP), Centre for
  Microbiology Research (CMR), Kenya Medical Research
  Institute (KEMRI), Kisumu, Kenya<sup>1</sup>
- Department of Paediatrics, University of Colorado, Denver, Denver, Colorado, USA<sup>2</sup>
- Departments of Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Reproductive Sciences; Medicine; University of California San Francisco (UCSF), San Francisco, CA, USA<sup>3</sup>
- 4. Ministry of Health (MOH), Kenya<sup>4</sup>



#### Background





Despite the availability of Prevention of Mother-to-Child HIV Transmission (PMTCT) interventions and donor and government investments in developing country implementation, the problem of vertical HIV transmission persists





### **Methods**

A case-control study

- HIV-exposed infants (HEI) enrolled in follow-up care between January and June 2012
- Conducted at 20 rural health facilities in Rongo District, Nyanza Province, Kenya
- All facilities supported by Family AIDS Care and Education Services (FACES), a comprehensive HIV prevention, care, and treatment program





#### Cases

 HEI who turned HIV positive and controls were HEI who remained negative at last test

#### Controls

 Randomly selected after matching based on birth month and gender to identify a number equal to cases



 Logistic regression performed to determine factors associated with HIV infection



# Results

45 cases and 45 controls compared

- Maternal, clinical and infant factors associated with HIV-infected infants:
  - Poor PMTCT service uptake including late enrolment of infant to follow up, (OR = 0.14, 95%CI: 0.06 - 0.38)
  - Poor adherence to infant prophylaxis (OR=8.32, 95%CI 3.24 –21.38)
  - Fewer antenatal (ANC) visits (OR = 0.62, 95% CI: 0.41
     0.96)

### Results

- Mothers of cases were also significantly less likely to report
  - Having received clinic level HIV education and counselling compared to the controls (OR 0.13, 95%CI 0.04 - 0.54 and OR 0.12, 95% CI 0.03 -0.46)
- Maternal disclosure, gestation at first ANC visit, and infant feeding type were not associated

## Conclusion

Poor uptake of PMTCT services and a reported absence of HIV education and counselling at the clinic level were associated with MTCT

More emphasis on PMTCT service provision including counselling and education are urgently needed to minimize opportunities for HIV transmission to infants



#### An Island on land







Ongito Dispensary – Uriri District Migori County

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#### For more information on the FACES programme, please visit <u>www.faces-kenya.org</u>

The findings and conclusions in this presentation are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention(CDC)





# "If you always do what you' ve always done, you' ll always get what you' ve always got"