







Virological outcomes of children and adolescents on multi months antiretroviral drug refills in Tanzania

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Background 1.5M people on HIV treatment in Tanzania 53% are on multi-months Anti-retrovirals(ARVs) once in 3 or 6 months But the long duration between clinical contacts in multi-months ARVs

?? may predispose to sub-optimal ART adherence particularly among children and adolescents.

AIM: We evaluated virological outcomes of children and adolescents with HIV on multi-months ARVs

Methods

• Participants: Children & Adolescents

7,782 Eligible

- > aged 5-19 years across 4 regions
- > on multi-months ARVs Apr-Jun 2021
- > <50 viral copies/mL at baseline

Outcome: Viral outcomes at 1year

- ➤ Virologic failure: ≥1000 copies/mL
- ➤ Detectable viral load: ≥50 copies/mL
 - 2,003 excluded due to lack of a viral load test at 1 year follow-up

5,779 (74%) analyzed



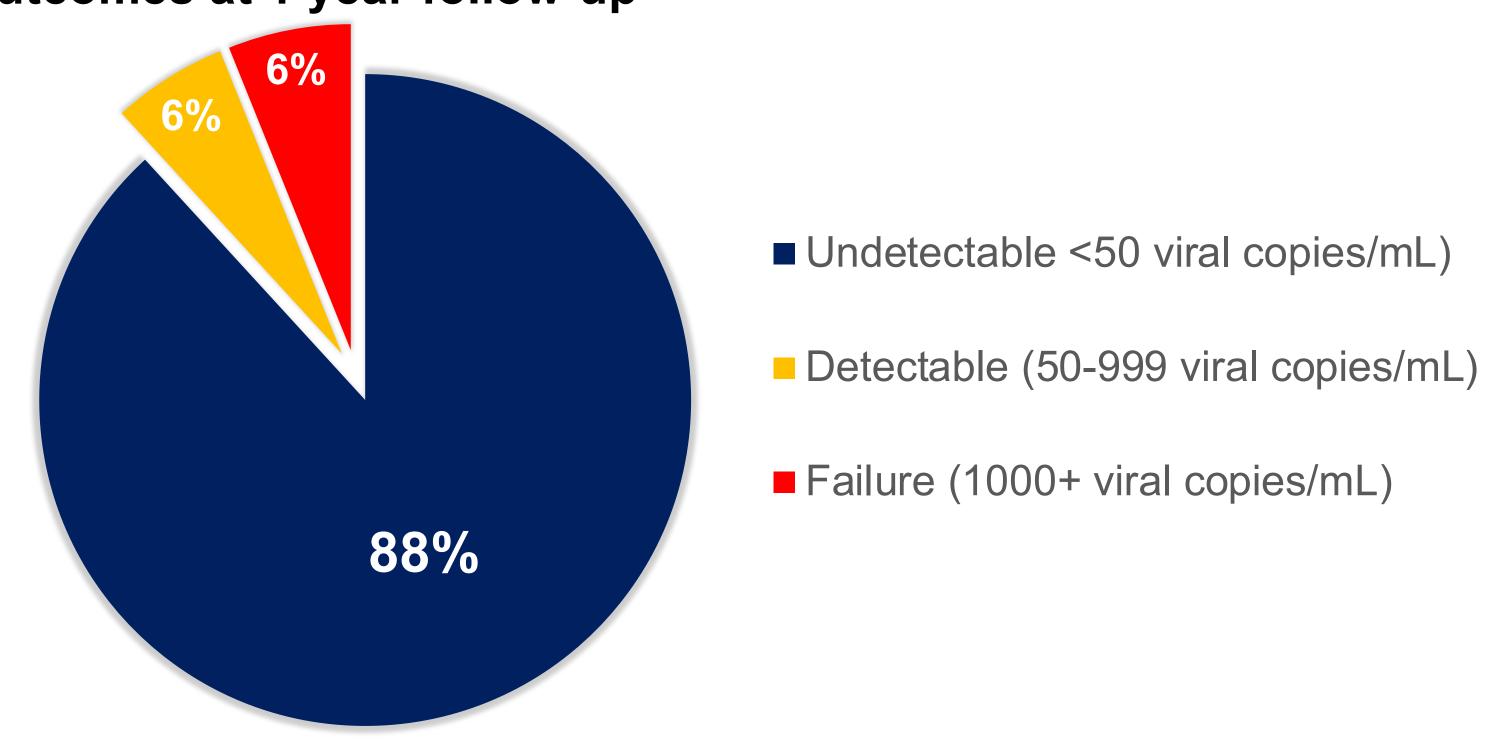
Peter (15yrs), from Geita region, sharing his viral suppression progress after his enrolment on 3MMD

Results

Baseline characteristics

Sex	Number	Percent	Age	Number	Percent
			5-9	1,610	28%
Female	3,060	53%	10-14	2,146	37%
Male	2,719	47%	15-19	2,023	35%

Viral Outcomes at 1 year follow-up



Viral Outcomes at 1 year follow-up by age and sex

		Viral Copies/ mL n (%)				
		<50	50-999	1000 +		
Sex	Female	2,713 (89%)	162 (5%)	185 (6%)		
	Male	2,384 (88%)	168 (6%)	167 (6%)		
	Total	5,097 (88%)	330 (6%)	352 (6%)		
Age(yrs)	5-9	1,411 (88%)	110 (7%)	89 (5%)		
	10-14	1,911 (89%)	118 (5%)	117 (6%)		
	15-19	1,775 (88%)	102 (5%)	146 (7%)		
	Total	5,097 (88%)	330 (6%)	352 (6%)		

Conclusion and Recommendation

- Majority (94%) of children and adolescents on multi-month ARVs are virally suppressed at 12 months follow-up.
 - > However, Detectable viral load remains high at 12%.
- There is need for more analysis and closer clinical monitoring for clients with detectable viral load while on 3/6 Multi Month Dispensing (MMD).