



PAEDIATRIC HIV INFECTION THE LASUTH EXPERIENCE WITH REFERRED CASES.

Disu EA, Ibitoye EA, Akinwumi IN, Oluwafemi RO, and Solarin AU.

BACKGROUND

Paediatric HIV is a significant cause of morbidity and mortality thus making the care of these children very important especially with the available programmes of prevention of mother to child transmission and use of HAART.

OBJECTIVE

- To describe the LASUTH experience of care of the HIV positive patients.
- To document the therapeutic response.

METHOD

A prospective study of the HIV positive patients in the 9 months period (from March to

December 2007).

All 62 HIV positive patients aged between 18 months and 10 years, who presented at the outpatient facilities were recruited into the study. According to the protocol of the unit entry age, sex, probable mode of transmission, pre-HAART weight, baseline CD4 count, initial HIV stage and post-HAART parameters were documented in the patients case records. The presence or absence of opportunistic infections was routinely entered into an evaluation form. The therapeutic response of patients was judged using weight gain, improvement of CD4 percent and presence or absence of opportunistic infections.

RESULTS

Out of the 62 patients, 28(45.2%) were males, 34(54.8%) were females with M:F ratio of 1:1.2. The commonest known route of transmission was Mother-To-Child-Transmission (53.2%). Thirty four percent presented in stage 1, 25.8% presented in stage 2, 24.2% presented in stage 3 while 16.1% presented in stage 4. Of the 41 patients who had stage 2-4 disease at entry, 17 (41.5%) improved in stage while 4.9% regressed to worse stages. Twenty one remained asymptomatic as when recruited. One patient died (1.6%).

CONCLUSION

The predominant mode of Paediatric HIV is mother to child transmission. HAART is an effective regimen, as most patients improved clinically and according to laboratory investigations.