

Supplementary Data

SUPPLEMENTARY TABLE S1. COMPARISON OF PUBLIC SECTOR HIV CLINICS ACROSS GAUTENG AND MPUMALANGA, SOUTH AFRICA

| | Gauteng | | | | Mpumalanga | |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| | Themba Lethu Clinic Central JHB | Alex North JHB | Leratong West JHB | Witkoppen North JHB | Ederdale East JHB | ACTS Shongoa |
| Demographics and clinical characteristics at ART initiation | | | | | | |
| Initiated on ART, <i>n</i> | 13,985 | 4,966 | 5,393 | 3,669 | 3,383 | 7,222 |
| region | Urban | Periurban ^a | Periurban ^a | Urban | Periurban ^a | Periurban ^a |
| Gender, male, <i>n</i> , % | 5,163 (36.9%) | 1,844 (37.1%) | 1,949 (36.1%) | 1,092 (29.8%) | 1,289 (38.1%) | 2,457 (34.0%) |
| Age, median, IQR | 36.0 (30.9–42.5) | 36.5 (30.9–43.2) | 35.8 (30.2–43.1) | 35.1 (30.0–41.4) | 35.8 (30.5–42.5) | 35.6 (29.3–43.7) |
| Employed, <i>n</i> , % | 6,418/13,985 (45.8%) | 2,163/4,965 (43.6%) | 1,211/5,393 (22.5%) | 1,787/3,669 (48.7%) | 1,401/3,368 (41.6%) | 1,413/7,222 (19.6%) |
| Body mass index (BMI; kg/m ²), median, IQR | 21.5 (19.0–24.8) | 21.8 (19.5–25.3) | 21.3 (18.8–24.6) | 23.5 (20.9–27.0) | 22.5 (19.9–26.0) | 21.9 (19.4–24.9) |
| CD4 count, cells/mm ³ , median, IQR | 92.0 (34.0–160.0) | 109.5 (50.0–170.0) | 103.0 (47.0–160.0) | 130.0 (65.0–195.0) | 97.0 (38.0–161.0) | 130.0 (65.0–183.0) |
| Hemoglobin, g/dl, median, IQR | 11.4 (9.9–12.9) | 11.4 (10.0–12.8) | 11.1 (9.6–12.5) | 11.6 (10.3–12.8) | 11.5 (10.0–12.8) | 10.3 (8.9–11.6) |
| WHO stage III/IV, <i>n</i> , % | 5,330/12,346 (43.2%) | 1,281/2,471 (51.8%) | 1,557/2,767 (56.3%) | 720/1,732 (41.6%) | 914/2,300 (39.7%) | 3,492/4,537 (77.0%) |
| Management of adolescent Patient identification | Referred from adult clinic | Patients identified according to age of presentation. Also transferred-in or referred from other institutions | Patients identified according to age and characteristics (i.e., school uniform) | Patients identified according to age. Transferred-in or referred from other institutions/ANC screening | Identified by age: 10–13 years old are accompanied by caregivers; 13–18 years are self referrals | Patients identified according to age |
| Referred from pediatric to adult HIV care | No | Yes (due to pregnancy) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Patients initiated as adults | Yes | Yes/10–14 year olds are initiated in pediatric clinic | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| ARV drug or medical visits for adolescent | Seen once a month on an “adolescent day” for full assessment (medical visits, blood, and collect ARV(s) and engage in social activities | 1 day per week is dedicated for visits (i.e., Wednesday) | Visits are booked at 1–2 month intervals randomly for any day of the week | First medical visit date is after 2 weeks to 1 month. Stable patients booked at 2–3 month intervals | Visits are booked to coincide with the adolescent social support groups and usually after school hours | 1 day per week is dedicated for visits (i.e., Wednesday) |

(continued)

TABLE S1. (CONTINUED)

| | | Gauteng | | | | Mpumalanga | | |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|--|---|---------|
| | | Themba Lethu Clinic Central JHB | Alex North JHB | Leratong West JHB | Witkoppen North JHB | Edendale East JHB | ACTS | Shongwe |
| Specialist consultants/ dedicated staff | Special Medical Officer, counselor and clerk | Clinic has a multidisciplinary approach (dedicated team: pediatric specialist, social worker, pharmacy, dietician, and referral for psychology services). Adolescents 10–17 years are NOT seen in the adult clinic like the other sites in this study | Well experienced Medical Officers. Dietician, social worker, and counselor. Pediatrician consulted by telephone. No HIV infectious disease specialist | Dietician, psychologist, HIV infectious specialist, counselor, and on-site social worker support | Pediatric specialist consultant and on-site social worker | HIV infectious disease specialist; a nurse practitioner; 3 pediatric counselors; occupational therapist; social worker | Pediatrician consultant. Dietician, psychologist, and social workers are always available | |
| Incentives | A meal is provided to them on the “adolescent day.” Special social/educational activities (crafts) | Food parcels are given to those who need it | OVC program provides cell phones, sanitary towels, etc. | Adolescent support group hosted once a month—with refreshments. Food parcels if there is a need | None | Feeding program—bowl of soup and fruit on visit day. Memory box | None | |
| How are adolescents treated differently? | Adolescents meet on a special day. Special social/educational activities are arranged and a meal is provided to them | Visits booked on an “adolescent day.” Support groups, individual counseling, and social worker involvement | Adolescent (orphans and nonorphans) attend sessions with educational and clinical psychologist in the OVC program | One-on-one session with counselor, adolescent support group hosted once a month, psychologist is available for unresolved issues | Clinic visits after school hours that coincide with the adolescent social support group meeting—led by on-site social worker | Visits booked on an “adolescent day.” Specialist counselors are available | One-on-one session with counselor. Visits booked on an “adolescent day.” | |
| Initiating ART regimens prescribed | DoH first-line—mainly TDF/3TC/EFV | DoH first-line | DoH first-line—usually d4T/3TC/EFV | DoH first-line—usually d4T/3TC/EFV (Regimen 1A) | DoH first-line—usually d4T/3TC/EFV | DoH first-line—usually d4T/3TC/EFV (Regimen 1A) | DoH first-line—usually d4T/3TC/EFV (Regimen 1A) | |

(continued)

TABLE S1. (CONTINUED)

| | | Gauteng | | | | Mpumalanga | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|--|---|--|---|
| | | Themba Lethu Clinic Central JHB | Alex North JHB | Leratong West JHB | Witkoppen North JHB | Edenrode East JHB | ACTS | Stongwe |
| Handling of regimen | | Patients previously on d4T are moved to TDF if they are suppressed (for ease of dosing) or switched to Regimen 2 | Changes to the second line are often based on genotyping (if available). Lamivudine (3TC) monotherapy is used as a holding strategy in consultation with a specialist in certain cases of viral failure | Most adolescents are on adult regimens | TDF not prescribed for children less than 18 years. Children over the weight of 40 kg are provided adult dosages | Patients switched to adult dosages based on weight | Children over the weight of 40 kg are provided adult dosages | 1A, however, prefers to prescribe the medication once a day for adherence |
| Switch from pediatric to adult regimens | | Adolescents are on adult regimens | Most patients are kept on ABC/3TC/EFV until 18 years of age. Switched due to d4T toxicity | Most adolescents are on adult regimens | TDF not prescribed to children less than 18 years. Children over the weight of 40 kg are provided adult dosages | Switched due to d4T toxicity. Switch is based on weight and not age | Switch is based on weight and not age | Dosages are based on the weight of the patient |
| Information on disclosure of HIV status to adolescent recorded | | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Other adolescent health care services provided | | Male circumcision | Cervical screening available and referral for male circumcision | Male circumcision | Cervical screening available and referral for male circumcision | Social support group | Male circumcision | Male circumcision |
| HIV transmission—perinatal or behavioral | | Not specifically stated | Not specifically stated | Not specifically stated | Not specifically stated | Not specifically stated | Not specifically stated (assessed by history, parental status, history of abuse) | Assessed by time on antiretroviral therapy |

^aPeriurban areas can be described as those immediately adjoining urban areas, localized outside formal urban boundaries and urban jurisdictions, that are in a process of urbanization and that therefore progressively assume many of the characteristics of urban areas.

^bRural areas are settled places outside towns and cities; their inhabitants generally live in villages, on farms, and in other isolated houses. AR, antiretroviral; DoH, Department of Health; ART, antiretroviral therapy; IQR, interquartile range.