Effectiveness of the National Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMTCT) Programme in South Africa

2011 NATIONAL SAPMTCT SURVEY RESULTS
REleased by minister Aaron Motsoaledi
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Primary study question
- To evaluate the effectiveness of national PMTCT programme to reduce perinatal transmission of HIV from mothers to infants.

Survey design
- National survey of infants aged 4-8 weeks sampled at 580 facilities across all provinces annually since 2010.

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINDINGS

- Percentage of infants exposed to HIV-(weighted exposure prevalence):
  - 2010: 31.4% (95% CI 30.1-32.6%) = ANC survey
  - 2011: 32.2% (95% CI 30.7-33.6%)

- Perinatal mother to child HIV transmission rate measured at 4-8 weeks of infant age (weighted):
  - 2010: 3.5% (95% CI 2.9-4.1%)
  - 2011: 2.7% (95% CI 2.1-3.2%)

* 2010 Results based on 10182 infants sampled
* 2011 Results based on 10106 infants sampled
CONCLUSIONS

- An estimated 104 000 out of 117000 (89%) babies were saved from HIV infection in 2010, and an additional 3000 babies were saved in 2011, increasing the proportion saved to 91% or 107000 out of 117000 babies. These calculations assume that 391 000 (32.2% of 1 214 485 live births) were HIV exposed and 30% of HIV-exposed babies will be HIV-infected by 8 weeks without any PMTCT interventions.

- The perinatal MTCT rate of 3.5% (2.9-4.1%) in 2010 and 2.7% (95% CI 2.1-3.2) in 2011 suggests South Africa is potentially on track to reach the target of <2% perinatal HIV transmission by 2015.

- HIV positive pregnant women on HAART increased from 33% in 2010 to 43% in 2011.

- Further analysis of data on PMTCT programme indicators and MTCT risk factors, pending.