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Determinants of child survival (0-59months) among mother living positively with HIV and AIDS at Ndejje Health Centre IV-Wakiso District

Background: Global estimates for children born with HIV on daily basis adds up to 1,000 and many die by the age of two if they do not receive the appropriate medical care. According to WHO 2011 report, over 3 million babies are estimated to be dying around the world before 28 days of life, although a lot of efforts have been put in place to improve on child survival within the past 10 years; new born mortality has gone low compared to the overall child mortality.

Objective: To establish determinants of infant and child survival (0-59 months) among mothers living positively with HIV/AIDS and receiving health care services at Ndejje H/C IV-Wakiso district.

Method: This was a cross sectional study on 152 mothers living positively with HIV/AIDS at Ndejje H/C IV-Wakiso district. Structured interviews were used to collect data on infant and child survival (0-59 months) among the study respondents. Chi-square tests were used to assess the association between individual attributes of the mother and health service factors with infant and child survival. All statistical Cox regression tests were two-tailed and P-value less than 0.05 were considered significant.

Results: The survival rate of infants and children was at 85.5%. The results showed Childs' age ($\chi^2=6.476$, P-value of 0.039), child's HIV status ($\chi^2=8.574$, P-value of 0.003), maternal age ($\chi^2=33.468$, P-value of 0.001), level of education ($\chi^2=25.499$, P-value of 0.008) employment status ($\chi^2=6.032$, P-value of 0.010), income level ($\chi^2=16.788$, P-value of 0.019) ARV at birth ($\chi^2=11.170$, P-value of 0.008), number of ANC visits ($\chi^2=6.431$, P-value of 0.027) and the place of delivery ($\chi^2=21.268$, P-value of 0.000) were the child's characteristics that were found to have a significant association with child's survival but the only variable that was statistically significant at the Cox regression was income level with P-value of 0.028.

Conclusion & Recommendation: The survival rate of the children was moderate. It is recommended that government and its partners should increase the level of sensitization on HIV related issues to the public to enhance informed decision making and to economically empower mothers. Safe practices and the need to reinforce the facility delivery policy through health education with emphasis on promotion, protection and support of HIV programs should also be considered.

Speaker Biography

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