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Where Worlds Collide: Meeting the Needs of Young Married Adolescents Living with HIV and AIDS



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July 2014***



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Setting the Scene for Adolescent Marriage and Pregnancies

- **Young Women**

- More than one third of women aged 20–24 in the developing world were married/in union by age 18; about 12% were married/in union by 15¹.
- 16 million women ages 15–19 give birth each year, about 11% of all births worldwide².

- **Young Men**

- What about young men?



1- UNFPA: Marrying Too Young: End Child Marriage 2012

2- WHO 2014



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Setting the Scene for HIV and Youth

- In 2010 young people aged 15–24 accounted for 42% of new HIV infections in people aged 15 and older⁴.
- Worldwide, the vast majority of those living with HIV – 80- 90% – are unaware of their status⁵.
- Among young people in sub-Saharan Africa, only 10 per cent of young men and 15 per cent of young women (aged 15-24) know their HIV status⁶.

4- UNAIDS Fact Sheet

5- UNAIDS & WHO: AIDS Epidemic Update 2009

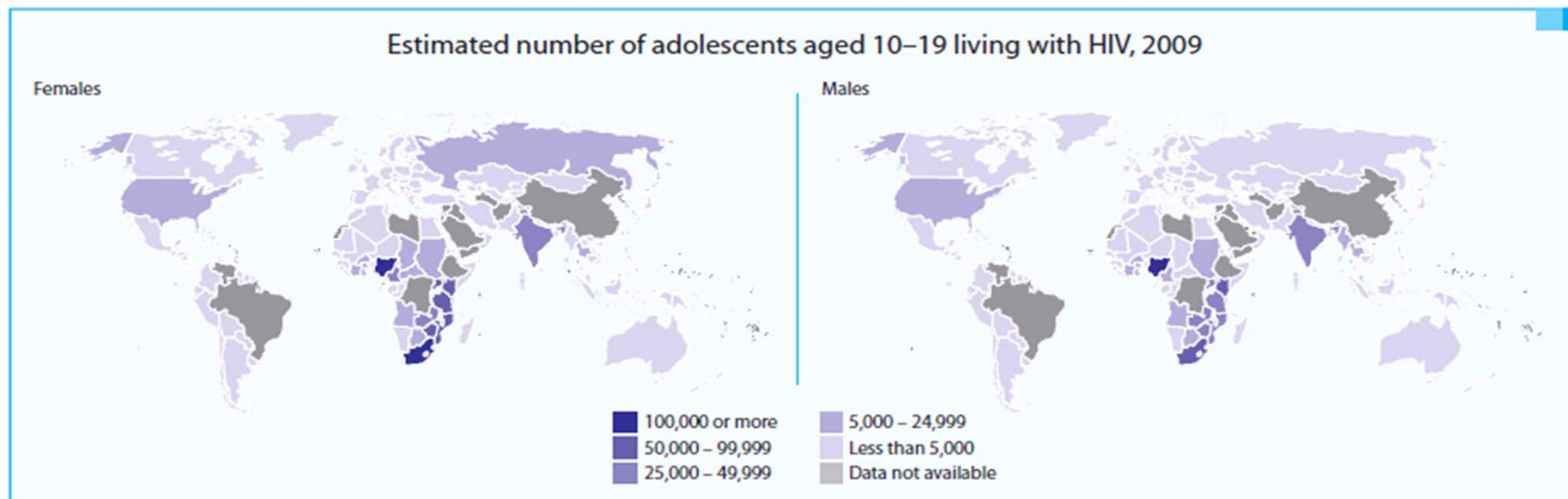
6- UNICEF Promoting Equity for Children Living in a World with HIV and AIDS, 2008



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Global View of Adolescents Living with HIV & AIDS (ALHIV)



Source: UNICEF: Opportunity in Crisis, 2011

Region	Total	
	Estimate	[low estimate - high estimate]
Eastern and Southern Africa	1,200,000	[1,000,000 - 1,400,000]
West and Central Africa	520,000	[390,000 - 680,000]
Middle East and North Africa	32,000	[25,000 - 40,000]
South Asia	100,000	[90,000 - 130,000]
East Asia and the Pacific	50,000	[29,000 - 73,000]
Latin America and the Caribbean	88,000	[62,000 - 160,000]
CEE/CIS	13,000	[11,000 - 15,000]
World	2,000,000	[1,800,000 - 2,400,000]

- 2 million (1.8 - 2.4m) ALHIV globally
- 90% of ALHIV are in SSA
- 65% of ALHIV are girls
- Difficult to determine if youth were infected perinatally or behaviorally infected (Coovadia and Mantell, 2010; Ferrand et al. 2010, Stover et al. 2008)

Slide 4

NSH2

cite data source (UNICEF?)

last bullet - not sure what that means

hasenns, 10/16/2012



USAID Perinatally and Behaviorally Infected

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Perinatally Infected	Behaviorally Infected
Advanced stages of HIV	Earlier stages of HIV
More Opportunistic Infections	Fewer Opportunistic Infections
More complex ART regimens	Less resistance
More obstacles for self-management	Less likely to experience obstacles
More physical/developmental delays	Less likely to have physical/developmental delays
Higher risks of complications during pregnancy and more SRH fears	Lower number of complications during pregnancy
Higher mortality rates	Long-term chronic disease outlook
May not know HIV status though may have been in treatment	May experience more adherence challenges
More likely to have experienced multiples losses related to HIV (parents, siblings, etc.)	More likely to have denial and fear of HIV
More secrecy regarding disclosure	More likely to be misinformed on HIV
More likely to have support from family/caregiver and health provider	More likely to lack familial, clinical, and social supports



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Perinatally Infected ALHIV

- Without Treatment⁷
 - Fast Progressors-64% median survival 6-7 months
 - Slow Progressors-36% median survival age 16
- Those on treatment are expected to live longer

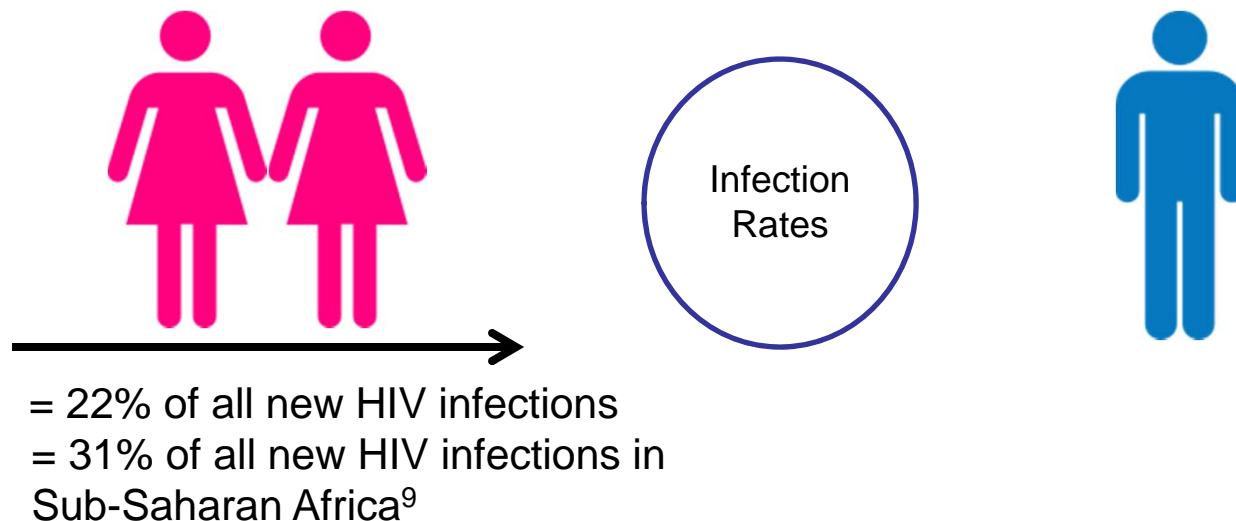


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Behaviorally Infected ALHIV

- Up to age 14, no difference in HIV prevalence is detected by sex; over 15, prevalence is disproportionately higher for girls.⁸
- Globally, HIV infection rates for young women (ages 15-24) twice as high as young men.⁹





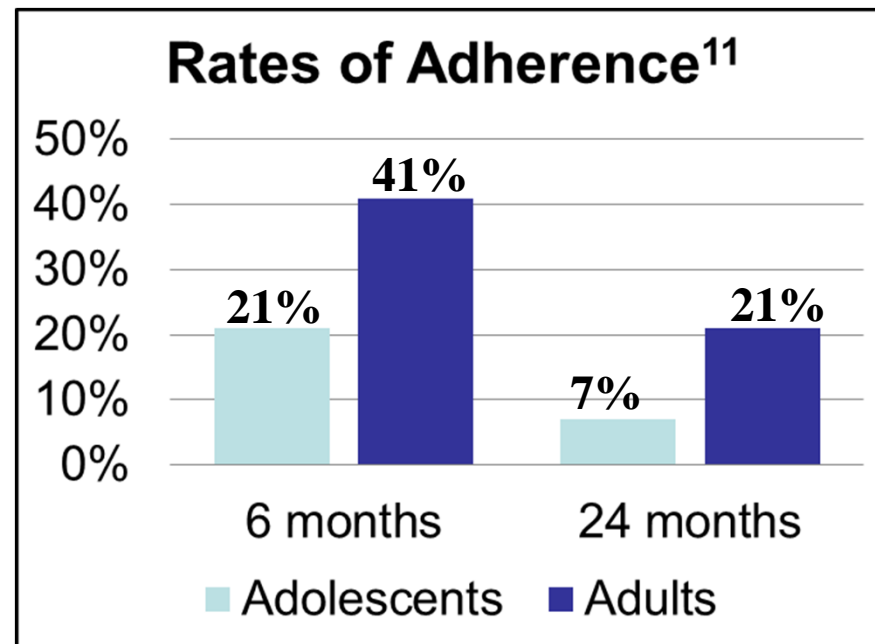
8- Gregson S, Nyamukapa CA, Garnett GP, et al. Lancet. 2002; 359: 1896–903

9- UNAIDS Fact Sheet- Adolescents, young people, and HIV.



ALHIV- Key Considerations

- From 2005-12, non-adolescents experienced a 32% in AIDS-related deaths; adolescents experienced 50%; Adolescent boys were 75% more likely to die of AIDS than girls¹⁰.
- Adolescent rates of adherence are lower than adult rates

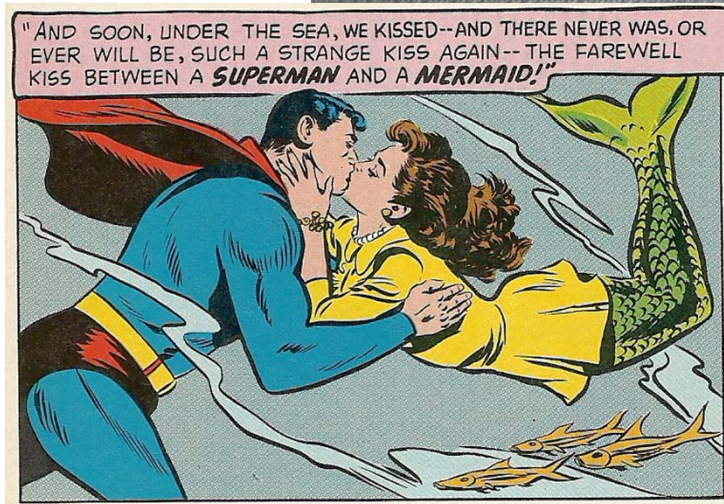


10- UNICEF Oral Presentation at IAS 2014: UNAIDS 2012 data

11-Nachega JB, Hislop M, Nguyen H, et al. J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr. 2009;51:65-71.



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ALHIV- Key Considerations (cont.)

- New feelings, longing for partnership, same/different sex relations, fears about ability to have a family
- Uganda Study of perinatally infected ALHIV¹³
 - Low levels of condom use- 63% were aware of need to use condoms; only 30% reported using condoms¹².
 - 41% of sexually active ALHIV had been pregnant
 - 69% of the women that delivered a child intended to have more children in the future; 86% of those who did not have children wanted children in future.

12/13- Birungi H, et al. Population Council and TASO. July 2008.



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Where Worlds Collide- Considerations for Married ALHIV

- **Young Women**

- Marriage may, but does not always, increase the risk of HIV for young women.
- 80% of unprotected sex among adolescent girls in developing world occurs within marriage¹⁴

- **Young Men**

- **Different Age Cohorts**

- **Ages 10-19;**
- **Ages 20-24**



14- Shelley Clark, Judith Bruce and Annie Dude Source: International Family Planning Perspectives, Vol. 32, No. 2 (Jun., 2006), pp. 79-88.



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Programmatic Considerations

- Access to Medical Care
 - Pregnancy prevention options OR Safer pregnancy options
 - Benefits of couples counseling
- Socio-cultural practices
 - Traditional Leaders
 - Mother-in-laws
 - Power dynamics to control sex
- Outreach to young men
- Disclosure
- Stigma



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Future Considerations

- They're adolescents! Youth-friendly services for young married women
- Legal rights of married women under the age of consent, which is unclear in many countries
- Male married ALHIV
- Adherence support
- Opportunities to support married ALHIV- additional questions/concerns that arise



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Moving through Adolescents to Adulthood

- Improving Adolescent HIV Treatment, Care, Prevention and Family Planning Services Multi-Country Assessment and Technical Brief. (Africa's Health in 2010, 2011)
http://aidstarone.com/focus_areas/care_and_support/resources/technical_briefs/alhiv_transitions
- Transitioning Of Care And Other Services For Adolescents Living With HIV In Sub-saharan Africa Technical Brief and Toolkit. (AIDSTAR-One, 2012)
http://aidstarone.com/focus_areas/care_and_support/resources/technical_briefs/alhiv_transitions
- Positive Connections: Leading Information and Support Groups for Adolescents Living with HIV. (FHI360) <https://www.iywg.org/resources/positive-connections-leading-information-and-support-groups-adolescents-living-hiv>
- HIV and adolescents: guidance for HIV testing and counselling and care for adolescents living with HIV: recommendations for a public health approach and considerations for policy-makers and managers. (WHO 2014)
http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/94334/1/9789241506168_eng.pdf



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Many Thanks To:

- USAID/GH colleagues for their contributions:
 - Anouk Amzel, Tom Minor, Vincent Wong, Ryan Phelps, Jacqueline Firth, Ugo Amanyeiwe, Ilana Lapidos-Salaiz, Joella Adams, Cate Lane, and Erin Dick.
- JSI colleagues: Melissa Sharer and Andrew Fullem