

Key findings and recommendations *baseline study TAFU*

Serere District



Baylor Uganda is the major HIV implementing partner

Recommendations

- Mobilize and increase awareness of communities on eMTCT and care for children living with HIV
- Increase and strengthen family support groups for eMTCT
- Address the gender and power relations
- Proactively promote male involvement in the eMTCT programme
- Engage religious, cultural and other community leaders for eMTCT and paediatric HIV care
- Strengthen referral and tracing of mothers especially at community level
- Strengthen health facility based information sessions especially at lower level health facilities
- Engage with other HIV implementing partners e.g. Baylor
- Advocacy, active engagement and dialogue for health system strengthening
- Address livelihood needs of families
- Support caregivers of HIV positive children to address economic needs
- Promote HIV testing beyond the health facility
- More engagement with networks of people living with HIV in community mobilisation and education
- Initiate and strengthen age-appropriate support groups for children living with HIV
- Train community volunteers to assist in follow up of children
- Build the capacity of health workers on paediatric HIV care

Towards an
AIDS
free 
generation
in Uganda
program

Facilitators and barriers of eMTCT and paediatric HIV care

Serere District

Facilitators

At family level

- Desire to give birth to HIV negative children
- HIV positive women giving birth to HIV negative babies
- Awareness about PMTCT
- Fear to leave orphans behind
- Positive response on treatment
- Support from relatives (reminders, food and transport)

At community level

- Community outreaches
- Mobilisation by VHTs/expert clients
- Village savings and loan associations
- Mobilisation and sensitisation by VHTs/expert clients
- Support to families for education and income generation (Baylor OVC project)

At health facility level

- Routine HIV testing for all in ANC
- Presence of mother-baby care points
- Availability of drugs
- Good care by health workers
- Support and encouragement from expert clients
- Health education at health facilities
- Support and encouragement from expert clients
- Support group for children at Serere HC IV
- Provision of education and income generation support to OVCs (Baylor OVC project)

Barriers

At family level

- Long distances to health centres
- Lack of transport
- Stigma at home
- Lack of family support
- Side effects of ARVs
- Low male involvement and support
- Financial constraints (to meet transport costs)
- Lack of disclosure among couples
- Domestic violence
- Issues of discordance
- Poor feeding habits
- Alcoholism (forget to take drugs)
- Orphan hood
- Lack of food and other necessities

At community level

- Stigma & discrimination in the community
- Belief in TBAs
- Mobile populations (fishing community)
- Low male involvement
- Stigma & discrimination in schools (nicknames)

At health facility level

- Delays at health facilities
- Lack of drugs for other sicknesses
- Distance to the facility
- Lack of IEC materials on paediatric HIV and eMTCT
- Inadequate counselling and support for new HIV positive mothers
- Stock out of ARVs and test kits
- Lack of play materials for children
- Children mixed with adults
- Lack of campaigns to test children