Clinical support to assist referral and management of Paediatric ART Failure and co-morbidities using a healthcare worker helpline

Kogieleum Naidoo, Sheylyn Pillay, Sibusiso Kubheka, Moherndran Archary, Rochelle Adams, Adele Munsami, Gurpreet Kindra, Mary Mogashoa

Best Practices and Innovations in Paediatric HIV and TB Care and Treatment Workshop
Protea Hotel, Pretoria
02 November 2017
Presentation Outline

• Background of ACC Programme

• Background of Paediatric Infectious Diseases Healthcare Worker Helpline

• Retrospective database review findings

• Key challenges and Solutions

• Conclusion and Next Steps
1. Establish systems and capacity to identify and manage TB and ART treatment failure
2. Strengthen systems and capacity in Complex DRTB management
3. Establish capacity for specialised clinical, laboratory and pharmaceutical support services
4. Build capacity of primary care providers to better manage complex TB/HIV clinical problems
5. Collect strategic information to track patient and program outcomes

CAPRISA ACC
ADVANCED CLINICAL CARE
Addressing challenges in HIV and TB patient management
SA Paediatric ART Overview

• HIV as a risk factor accounts for 50% of deaths in children under 5 years (CHIP, 2005)

• South Africa has the highest number of children living with HIV in the world:
  
  ➢ 1 in 8 children are HIV infected
  ➢ 320 000 (260 000 - 400 000) in children aged 0 to 14 years
  ➢ 172 000 Children 0 to 14 years currently on ART (sub-optimal)
Paediatric Infectious Diseases Healthcare Worker Helpline

• Initiative between CAPRISA ACC & Paediatric Infectious Diseases Unit (PIDU) at King Edward VIII Hospital in KZN

• Designated helpline mobile phone → housed in PIDU & manned by a Paediatric Infectious Diseases Specialist or Registrar
  I. Provide off-site specialist clinical support for complex cases in a resource limited setting
  II. Improve identification, triage, up-referral and management of vulnerable populations failing ART
  III. Identify and understand risk-factors for ART failure in the Paediatric population to improve outcomes

• **Study Aim:** Define the frequency of reported ART failure and investigate the profile of patients failing ART requiring expert consultation

• **Methods:** Retrospective Database Review of calls made from 3 Oct 2016 to 31 Aug 2017
Helpline Reach: All 11 KZN Districts

Proportion of Calls by District - KZN

- Amajuba: 1% (2/196)
- eThekwini: 51% (100/196)
- Ilembe: 2% (4/196)
- King Cetshwayo: 13% (25/196)
- Ugu: 7% (13/196)
- Umngungundlovu: 2% (3/196)
- Umkhanyakude: 19% (38/196)
- UThukela: 3% (6/196)
- Zululand: 2% (4/196)
- Total: 196

Priority District
Helpline Reach: All 11 KZN Districts
Helpline Reach: Level of Care

Facility Type

- Unknown: 1
- CHC: 10
- District Hospital: 72
- PHC: 21
- Quaternary Hospital: 8
- Regional Hospital: 83
- Specialised Hospital: 1

Bar chart showing the number and percent of helpline reach by level of care.
Paediatric Helpline Database: HIV Cascade

Total number of calls
n=196

HIV Status Known
n=141 (72%)

HIV Positive
n=128 (91%)

On ART
n=82 (64%)

VL testing Coverage
n=69 (84%)

VL suppressed
n= 12 (17%)

VL unsuppressed
n=57 (83%)

Complicated by co-morbidities: 48%
Virologic Failure: Age Groups

- 12 Months - 3 years
- 3 - 10 years
- over 10 years
- Age Unknown

[PERCENTAGE]
[PERCENTAGE]
[PERCENTAGE]
Virologic Failure: Regimens

- Regimen Unknown
- 2nd Line ART Failure
- 1st Line ART Failure
# Clinical presentation of complicated ART failures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Co-morbidities</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Severe Acute Malnutrition</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>20.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuberculosis</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate Acute Malnutrition</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complex Respiratory Pathology</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liver Disorders</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-liver GI Disorders</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haematologic Abnormalities</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infectious Pathology</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNS Disorders</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renal Pathology</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Summary

• Systems to support appropriate management of ART failure with complex co-morbidities are urgently required
  • Almost half of all patients had concurrent ART failure and complex comorbidity

• Helplines offer an effective mechanism to expedite up-referral of complicated patients

• ART failure rates among children < 10 years is alarming (> 60%)

• Malnutrition co-occurred in > 25% of cases with Virologic Failure
  • Severe Acute Malnutrition alone accounted for 20% of such cases

• Although the majority of virologic failure (VF) was for 1st line ART, protease inhibitors are often part of the baseline ART regimen in paediatric populations, and 2nd line ART failure was present in over 10% of cases in this cohort

• Clinical comorbidities and emerging ART resistance undermine clinical outcomes and have serious implications given limited access and availability of 3rd line ART in resource limited settings
Lessons Learned

- Impoverished settings have a high burden of Paediatric HIV and background co-morbidity
- Exceptionally high rates of virologic failure were observed in this cohort
- Systems to expedite early identification, triage, referral and management of vulnerable populations are critical to the success of the ART programme
- Healthcare worker helplines are feasible and efficient in achieving the above-mentioned in resource limited settings
- For SA to sustain gains made by the rollout of the ART programme, we need to optimize VL success
- Coaching/mentoring of clinician/nurses in VL failure clinics is critical
Acknowledgements

- Paediatric Infectious Diseases Department - King Edward Hospital
- The CAPRISA ACC Training Faculty
- CDC

This project was supported by the Grant or Cooperative Agreement Number U2G GH001142, funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the presenter(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.