


**Fertility Desire And Family Planning Need  
Among HIV Positive Men And Women On  
Follow Up Care In Addis Ababa Anti Retroviral  
Treatment Units.**



**Prepared by:** Wossenyelesh Tamene(Bsc,MPH)

Mesganaw Fantahun (MD,MPH)

# Introduction

---

- Ethiopia is one of the hardest hit SSA countries
- About 1.5 million PLWHA, out of these 817,000 are women & 96,000 are children < 15 yrs of age
- about 245,000 PLWHA were in need of ARV RX in 2003, about 34,965 PLWHA were on Rx until may 2006.
- The desire of HIV infected person to have children in the future has implication
  - transmission of HIV to sexual partner & new born

# Introduction cont'd

---

- An accurate description of desire to have children and contraceptive need among PLWHA serves as a bench mark for gauging
  - the fertility & FP related counseling & service needs of HIV infected adults
  - future social support for children born to infected parents.
  - to aid PLWHA who desire children & need FP to do so without scarifying the health of the new born ,their partners and themselves.
- little is known about whether HIV infected individuals desire to have children, need for FP & what factors influence these decisions in Ethiopia.

# Objective

---

## The main objective :

- To assess fertility desire and FP need in HIV positive men & women on follow up care in Addis Ababa ARV treatment units.

# Methods

---

## Study design

- cross sectional

## Study area and period

- Jan. to Feb. 2006 in six public hospitals ARV Rx units in Addis Ababa.

## Study population

- PLWHA who had at list one visit to the selected ARV Rx units & age group 18-49 for women & 18-54 for men

# Methods cont'd

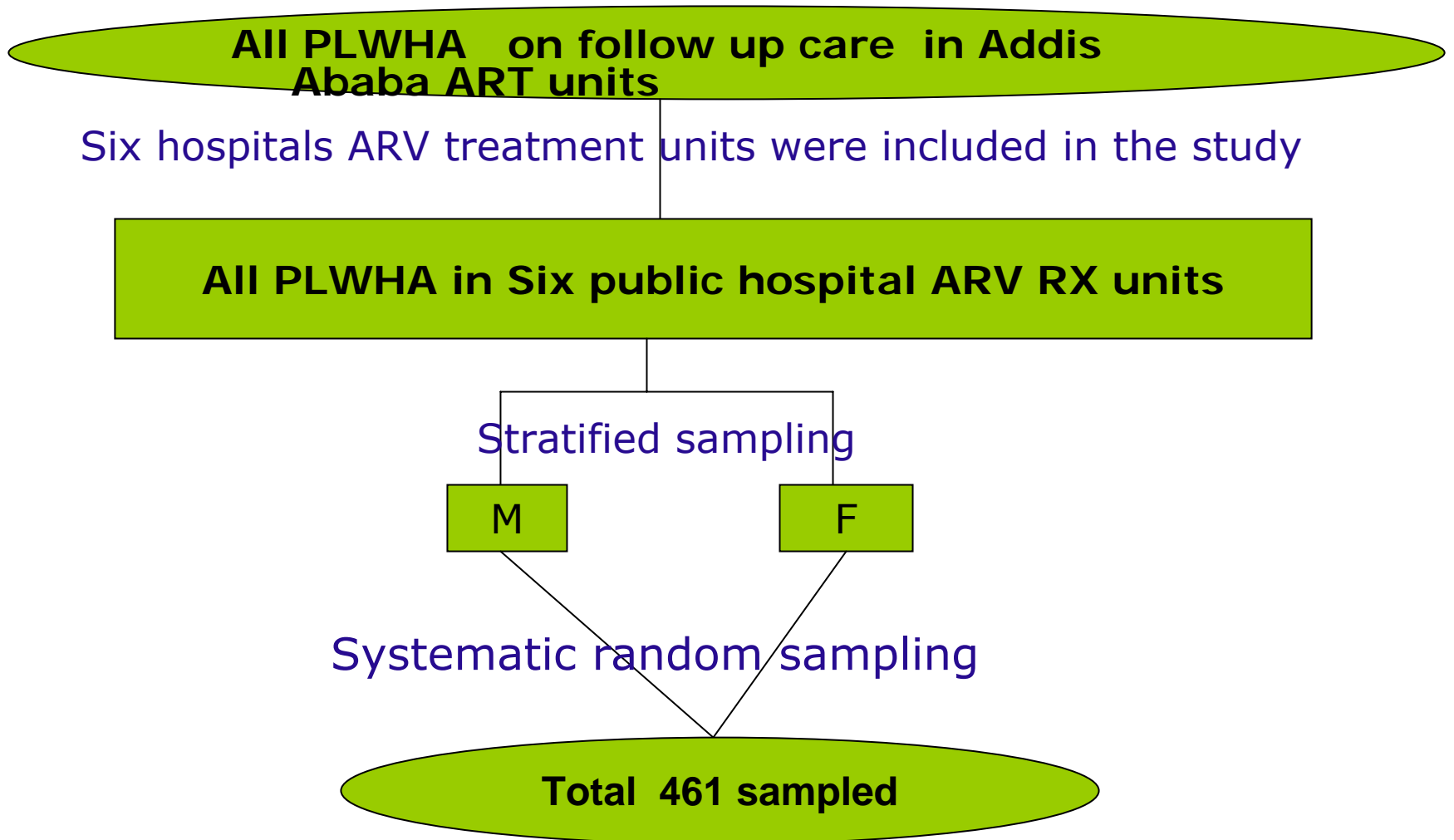
---

## Sample size calculation

- 50% of HIV +Ve individuals desired children
- 5 %marginal error and 95% CI of certainty
- using the formula for single population proportion
  - None response rate 20% =77
  - Total required sample size = 461

# Figure 1. Schematic presentation of the sampling procedure

---



# Methods cont'd

---

## **Data collection instrument**

- A pre-tested structured questionnaire

## **Data collection**

- Seven counselors working in the ARV treatment units were trained & recruited as data collectors .
- Two trained supervisors along with the PIs supervised the data collection process
- Filled questionnaires were checked daily for completeness, morning sessions conducted & errors were corrected

# Methods cont'd

---

## Data analysis

- Data was entered and analyzed using SPSS ver.11
- Descriptive statistics used to describe the characteristics of study subjects
- logistic regression analysis were used to identify association of future child desire and FP need by different factors

# Methods cont'd

---

## **Ethical consideration**

- Approved by ethical review committee of AAU
- permission obtained from hospitals medical director offices
- individual informed verbal consent were obtained

# Result and discussion

---

- 461 eligible PLWHA selected for the study , 460 agreed to participate giving response rate of 99.7%.

# Results & discussion cont'd

**Table1.** Socio demographic characteristics of the study subjects N=460

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>n(%)</b>
<b>Sex</b> Female Male	<b>244(53.0)</b> 216(47.0)
<b>Education</b> Secondary & above Primary and below	<b>341(74.1)</b> 119 (25.8)
<b>Age</b> 18-29 30-39 ≥40	122(26.5) <b>217(47.2)</b> 121(26.3)
<b>Religion</b> Orthodox Others	<b>339(73.7)</b> 121(26.3)
<b>Marital status</b> Married / in r/n ship Divorced / Widowed Never married	<b>228(49.5)</b> 145(31.5) 87(18.9)
<b>Number of children</b> No child One or more	170(37) <b>290(63)</b>

# Results & discussion cont'd

---

## Fertility desires

- 109 (44.7%) of females & 76(35.2%) of males, a total of 185(40.2%) of the respondents desired children
- lower than the study done in Nigeria 68.4% of women & 53.8 % of men desired children.
- But comparable to study done in Switzerland 47.5% of women & 38% of men desired children

# Results & discussion cont'd

---

- Despite , 63 % of respondents already had  $\geq 1$  child, 40.2% reported desire for children.
- This is a cause for concern considering its implication for controlling vertical as well as heterosexual transmission.
- In our study population 69.3 % of women reported recent CD4 count less than  $200/\text{mm}^3$ .
- Within the range recommended for ARV treatment

# Results & discussion cont'd

---

- These low CD4 count → a reflection of high viral load, would place at risk
- near term clinical prognosis for women , increase the chance of vertical & heterosexual transmission
- This also shows implication & a cause for concern for vertical, heterosexual transmission and the health of the mother
- as the health system and other related sectors do not appear ready to tackle the problem.

# Results & discussion cont'd

---

- >50% of our study population has monthly income less than 235 Eth.birr which is near to the government lowest salary 200 Ethiopian birr.
- This indicated that many of these people are from low socio economic status
- May not be able to access optimal care for themselves & to reduce the chance of transmission to the new borne.

**Table2- Association of desire for children by selected Characteristics, among PLWHA Under care in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 2006.**

chxs	Desire n (%)	Don't desire n(%)	COR(95%CI)	AOR (95%CI)
<b>Age (yrs)</b>				
18-29	73(39.5)	49(17.8)	<b>7.9(4.4 -14.7) *</b>	<b>3.0(1.5-6.4) *</b>
30-39	93(50.3)	124(45.1)	<b>4.0(2.3 -7.0) *</b>	1.3( 0.7-2.2)
≥ 40	19(10.2)	102(37.1)	1	1
<b>Sex</b>				
Female	109(58.9)	135(49.1)	<b>1.5(1.0-2.2) *</b>	1.2(0.7-1.9)
Male	76(41.1)	140(50.9)	1	1
<b>Marital status</b>				
Married /in r/n	105(56.8)	123(44.7)	<b>1.6(1.1-2.4) *</b>	<b>3.4(2.1-5.6) *</b>
others	80(43.2)	152(55.3)	1	1
<b>No of children</b>				
0	122(65.9)	48(17.5)	<b>18.0(8.8-36) *</b>	<b>11(5.3-24) *</b>
1-2	52(28.1)	149( 54.2)	<b>2.4(1.2-5.1) *</b>	1.9(0.9-3.9)
≥3	11(5.9)	78(28.4)	1	1
<b>Partner desire</b>				
yes	89(84.8)	16(13.0)	<b>37(17.6-79) *</b>	<b>38(16-89) *</b>
no	16(15.2)	107(87.0)	1	1
<b>disclosure</b>				
yes	87(82.9)	113(91.9)	<b>0.4(0.19-0.9) *</b>	0.4( 0.1-1.2)
no	18(17.1)	10(8.1)	1	1

# Results & discussion cont'd

## Family planning use

Table 3. Distributions of PLWHA under follow up care by contraceptive ever use before and after HIV diagnosis Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2006

FP ever use	Before n (%)	After n (%)
Yes	<b>225 (48.9%)</b>	<b>199 (43.3%)</b>
No	235 (51.1%)	261 (56.7%)
Method	Before n (%) †	After n (%) ††
OCPs	<b>103 (45.8%)</b>	19 (9.5%)
Injectables	<b>66 (29.3%)</b>	14 (7.0%)
IUD	12 (5.35%)	-----
Implants	5 (2.2%)	1 (0.5%)
Condom	35 (15.6%)	<b>131 (65.8%)</b>
abstinence	12 (5.3%)	<b>42 (21.1%)</b>
others	5 (2.2 %)	3 (1.5 %)

† Among those who ever used contraceptive before (n=225)

†† Among those who ever used contraceptive after (n= 199)

# Results & discussion cont'd

---

- 231 (50.2 %) of the participants had been sexually active within the past six months.
- (74.9%) of sexually active respondents were used condom
- (20.2%) of condom users reported irregular use
- have implication for vertical & heterosexual transmission as well as unplanned pregnancy among respondents

# Results & discussion cont'd

---

- During the survey period 246(53.5%) of the respondents were using different forms of FP.
- Out of these 150(61%) used condom
- Among those who were not using FP method during the survey period 85(39.7%) wants to use FP in the future.
- The most preferred method of FP was condom and injectables 72.9% & 21.2 % respectively.

# Results & discussion contd

---

## RH Counseling

- 89 (19.3%) of the respondents admitted to have been previously counseled on fertility issues such as sexuality ,FP & child bearing with ART providers.
- 35 (39.3%) of them felt that the discussion did not sufficiently address fertility issues
- These shows inadequate access for counseling in HIV care units

# Limitation of the study

---

- **Sample bias** –participants recruited at visit to ARV units. more adherent are likely to be enrolled. Result may not be generalized to all HIV +ves
- **Social desirability bias** -to ensure confidentiality of the study counselors were used as data collector
- To minimize bias
  - counselors were trained
  - explained to the respondents the study has no link with the service provided & its confidentiality
- The respondents may still provide desired answers by their counselors especially on high risk behaviors.
- Social desirability bias may be totally unavoidable

# Conclusion

---

- High number of HIV +ve men & women desired children.
- Reproductive decisions in HIV positive individuals are affected by different factors such as age, marital status, no children and partners fertility desire
- Large numbers of HIV positive individuals are using & want to use FP in the future, which shows high need for FP.

# conclusion cont'd

---

- Most common practiced method of FP among PLWHA were condom.
- A number of PLWHA under care felt that their reproductive counseling needs were not sufficiently addressed by their care providers.

# Recommendations

---

- The counseling services should have to provide adequate information on the meaning of fertility desire within the particular context of being sero +ve & provide adequate information on practicable reproductive options.
- Stakeholders should involve in promoting & strengthening the FP & other RH counseling & services within the HIV care units.

# Recommendation cont'd

---

- Fp counseling should promote proper & regular utilization of condom to avoid irregular use of condom
- Other FP methods should also come in to FP discussion to provide varied options

# Acknowledgements

---

- I Would like to thank CARE Ethiopia for funding this study
- I am also grateful to all study participants ,data collectors and supervisors

---

***Thank you !***