

Young people in sub-Saharan Africa affected by HIV

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Satellite Session- Adolescents and HIV
2018 Australasian HIV & AIDS Conference



International qualitative research programme

Focused on young people affected by HIV (aged 10-24)

- 13 research studies since 2010
- Uganda, Zimbabwe and South Africa, UK and USA

Aim to explore multifaceted experiences of the challenges, barriers and opportunities across the prevention and treatment cascade for young people

Develop and evaluate effective interventions for young people affected by HIV

Methods used: repeat interviews, with focus group discussions, audio diaries and co-design workshops

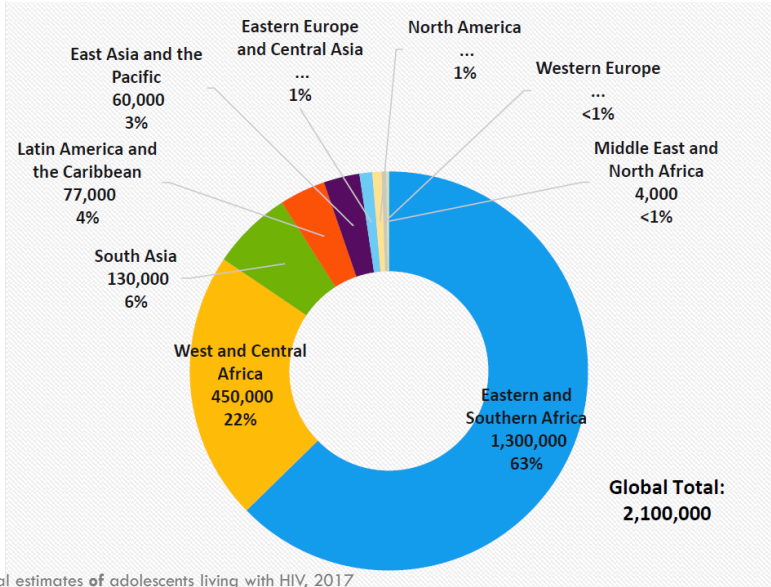




2.1M ADOLESCENTS LIVING WITH HIV



SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA ACCOUNTS FOR 9 IN 10 OF ADOLESCENT AIDS-RELATED DEATHS



260,000 NEW HIV ADOLESCENT INFECTIONS in 2016

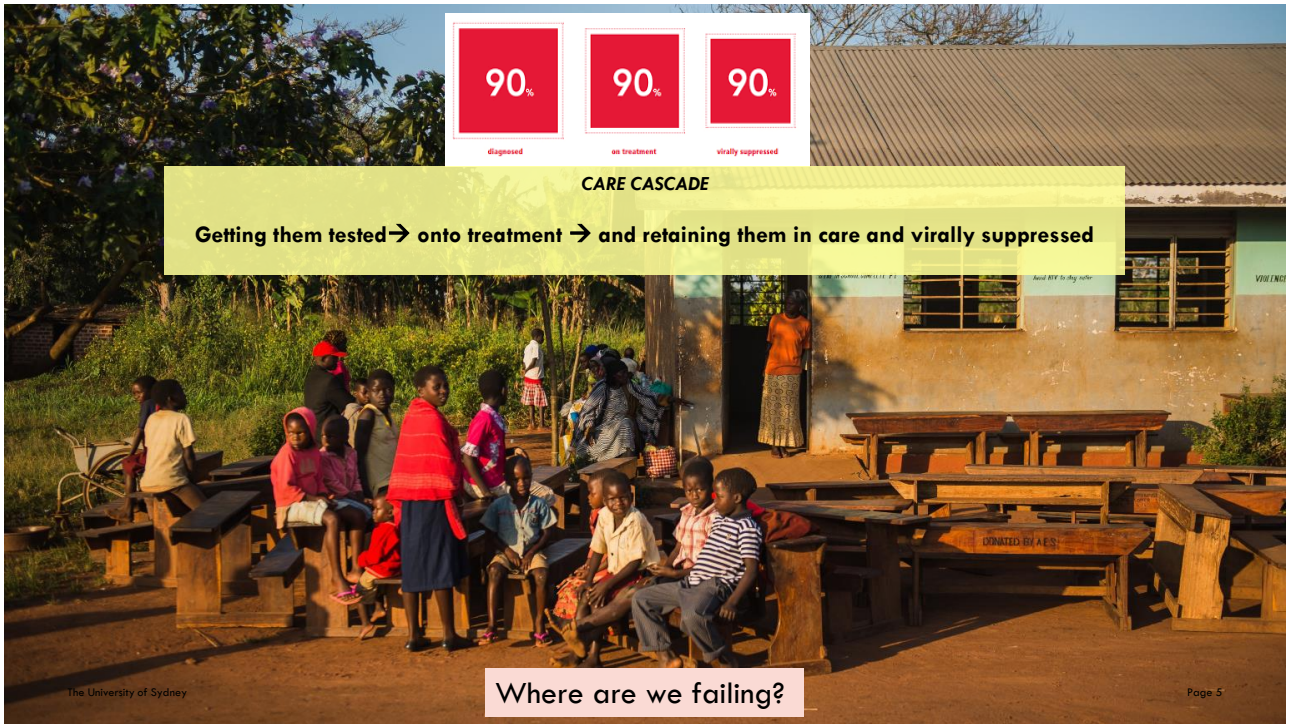
55,000 AIDS DEATHS AMONG ADOLESCENTS (10-19) IN 2016

Global estimates of adolescents living with HIV, 2017

Source: UNAIDS 2017 estimates

Note: Data not available for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, North America, and Western Europe.





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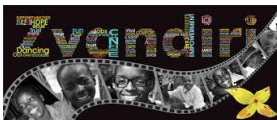
FINDING YOUR FEET

Qualitative longitudinal study on migration, substance use and HIV risk and engagement in care- intervention design. South Africa & Uganda



CHIEDZA TRIAL

Cluster randomised trial to improve cascade of care- qualitative formative study – youth friendly intervention for trial & qualitative process evaluation. Zimbabwe.



ZVANDIRI TRIAL

Cluster randomised trial
Community peer support intervention to improve adherence (reduce Viral Load)
Zimbabwe




YOUTH TRIALS BOARD
South Africa,
Uganda, UK and
Zimbabwe



ODYSSEY TRIAL

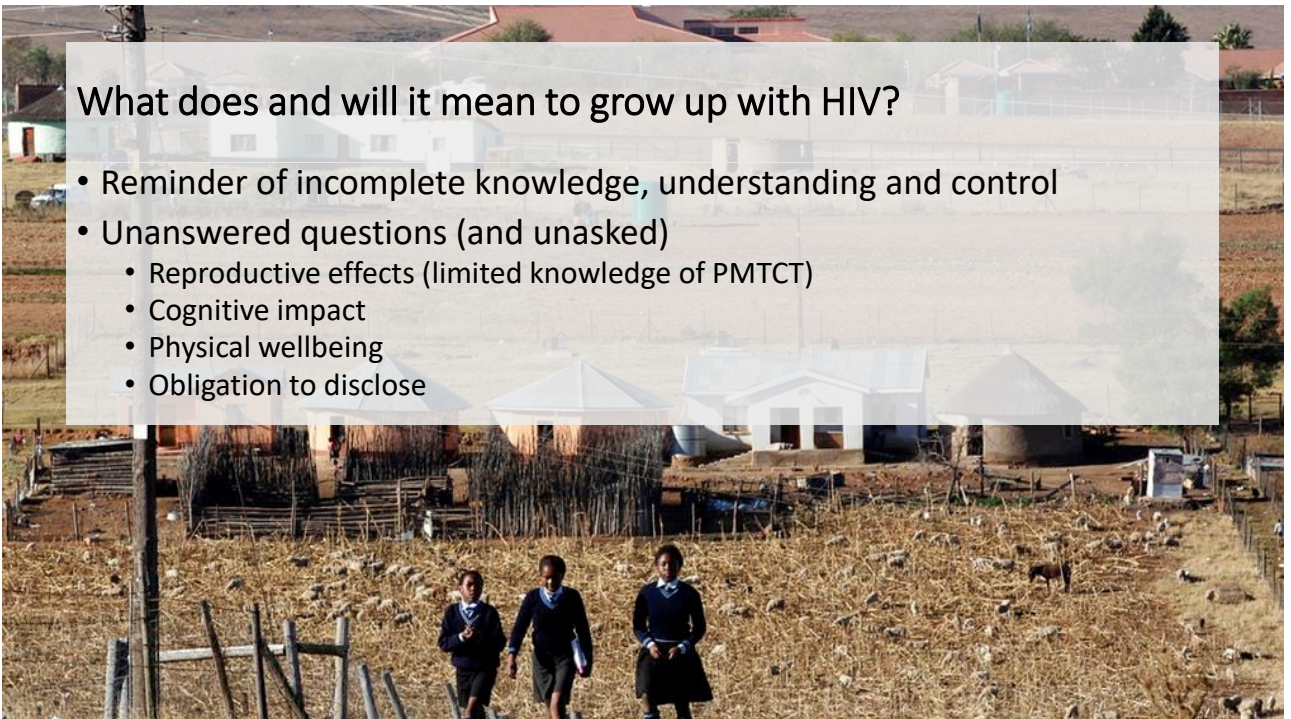
Qualitative study within RCT to improve support for ALHIV being moved onto 2nd line treatment Uganda and Zimbabwe



Dynamism of adherence behaviour

- Exposure to disruption- expect it
- Precarious and fluid over time
- Relational
- Potential to improve
- Difficult to admit missed doses/
poor adherence

- To maintain adherence- presume
it is AMBER



What does and will it mean to grow up with HIV?

- Reminder of incomplete knowledge, understanding and control
- Unanswered questions (and unasked)
 - Reproductive effects (limited knowledge of PMTCT)
 - Cognitive impact
 - Physical wellbeing
 - Obligation to disclose

3rd 90: maintain an undetectable viral load

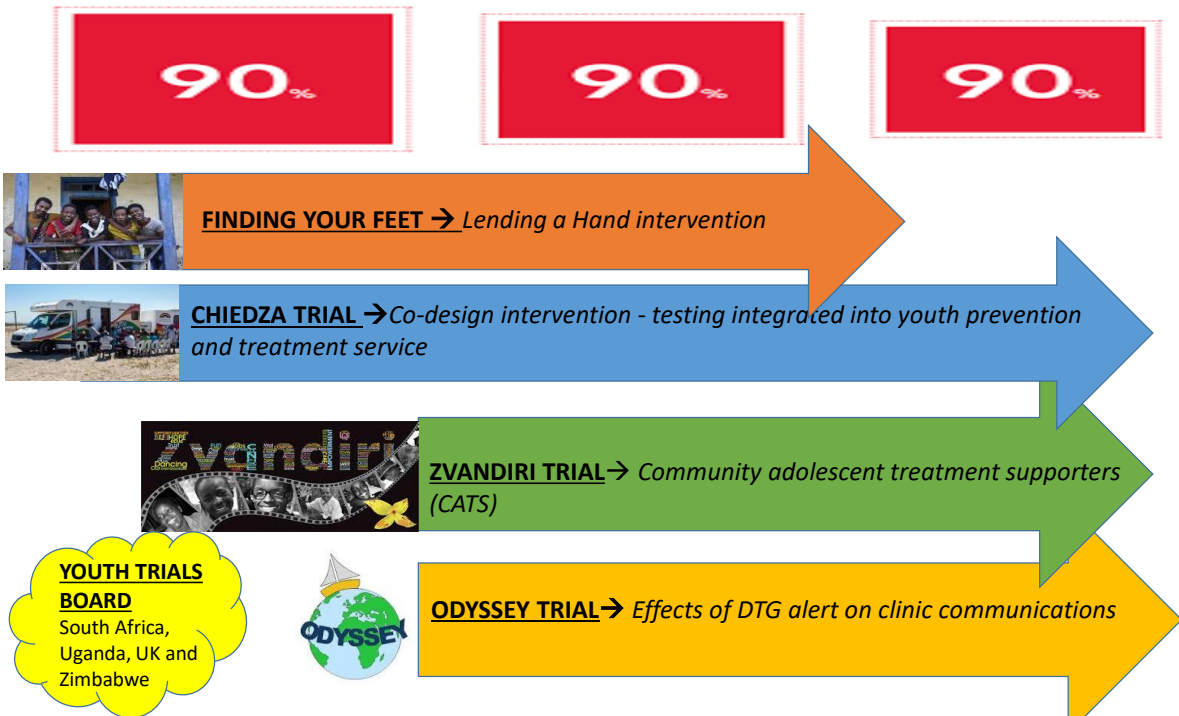
Odyssey and Zvandiri trials

- Almost no communication that undetectable= untransmissible
- Missed opportunity of enabling effects of being undetectable

Dolutegravir alert

- Management within DTG paediatric trial
- Catalyst for anticipatory conversations which connect with social realities of adolescents?

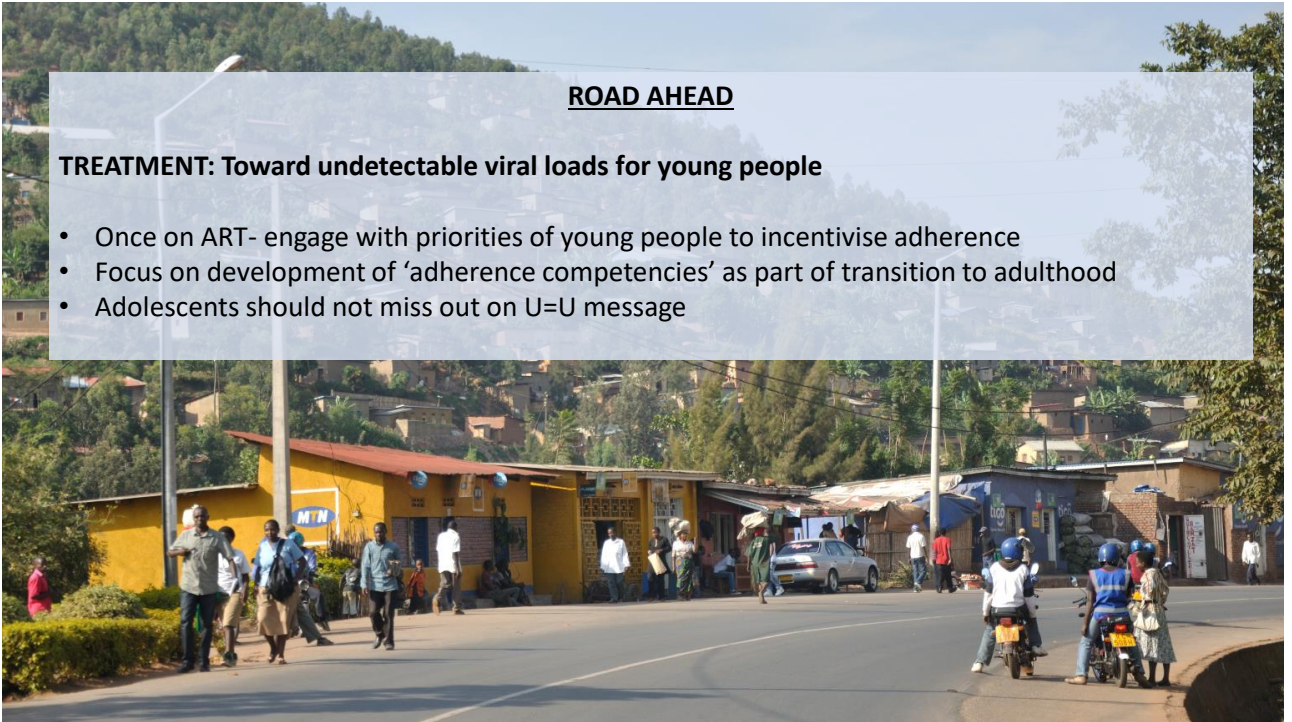
- Rapid shift to autonomous treatment taking linked to treatment 'failure'
- Inadequate preparation to develop knowledges and competences necessary to manage health effectively in transition to adulthood
 - including sexual and reproductive health



ROAD AHEAD

TREATMENT: Toward undetectable viral loads for young people

- Once on ART- engage with priorities of young people to incentivise adherence
- Focus on development of 'adherence competencies' as part of transition to adulthood
- Adolescents should not miss out on U=U message



Thank you for listening and to our participants and partners in this research

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