



Community Vertical Transmission Prevention

Jonathan Modugu
DSD/AHD/ART Specialist, NASCP/FMOH

HIVE Launch Meeting
December 4-6, 2024 | Johannesburg, South Africa



OUTLINE

1

Testing of Pregnant Women in Unconventional Settings – The Rationale

2

Vertical Transmission Prevention (VTP) Implementation in Nigeria

3

Approach for Testing of Pregnant Women in Unconventional Settings

4

Data collection and Management

5

Output of Testing of Pregnant Women in Unconventional Setting: IHVN Summary (Jan-Sept 2024)

6

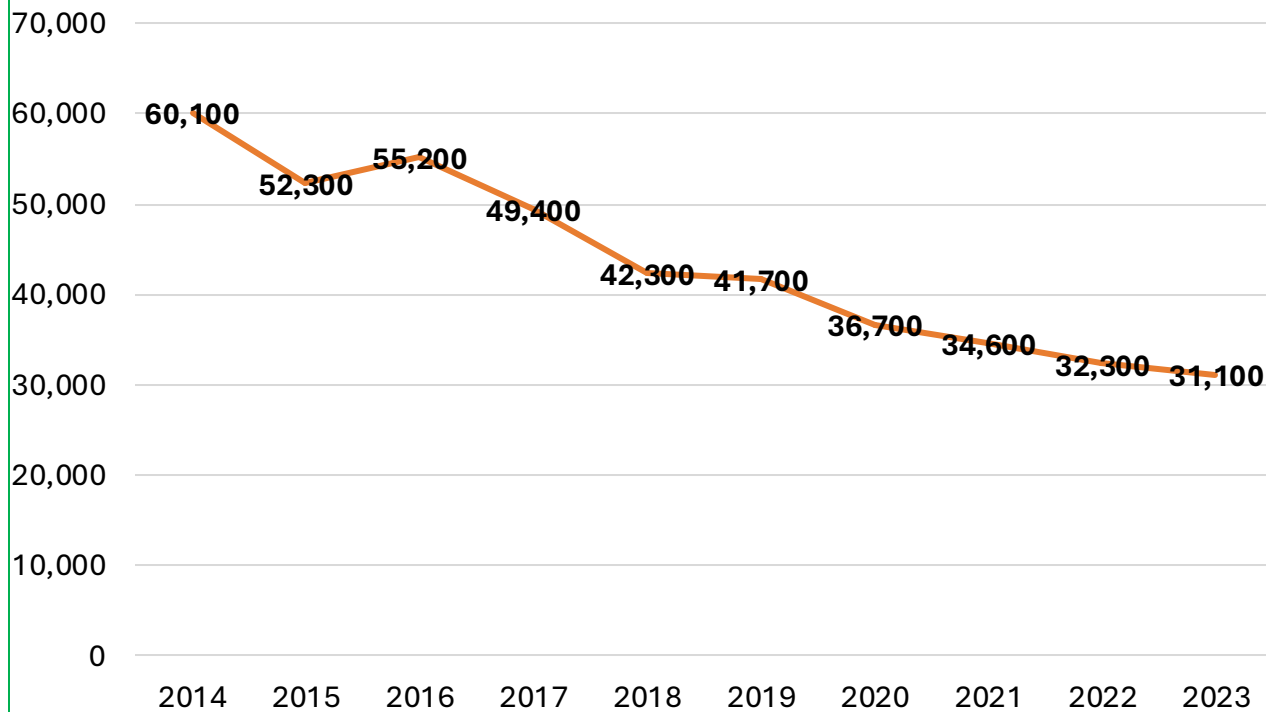
Challenges

7

Conclusion

Testing of Pregnant Women in Unconventional Settings – The Rationale

Reported number of pregnant women living with HIV receiving effective ART



- In 2023, there were > **22,000 new pediatric HIV infections occurred in Nigeria**, one of the highest rates of HIV vertical transmission children globally.
- An estimated 63% of pregnant women with HIV in Nigeria receive antiretroviral therapy (ART)
- Approximately 43% of births in Nigeria take place at home (NDHS) 2018
 - The NDHS reports that 20-25% of deliveries are assisted by TBAs

Source: UNICEF HIV PMTCT Coverage 2024

VTP Implementation in Nigeria

Nigeria uses 2 approaches to reach pregnant women in all setting with HIV testing services

- HTS at comprehensive ART sites offering the full cascade of vertical transmission prevention services; and spoke sites which offer testing and linkage services.
- Community HTS – Home testing and unconventional settings (traditional birth center, places of worship, where pregnant women seek care)

Approach for Testing of Pregnant Women in Unconventional Settings

Testing at Service Delivery Points

Testing all pregnant women accessing services from Traditional Birth Attendants, maternity homes, and Faith-based homes.

Identify pregnant women with HIV and link them to HIV care and treatment (VTP ART, Child welfare/immunization services).

Testing from Home-to-Home

Test all pregnant women found at home not accessing pregnancy-related services at the hospitals or SDPs.

An eligibility checklist is administered to rule out those already accessing care elsewhere to avoid double counting.

Strategic Approach for Testing of Pregnant Women in Unconventional Settings

Established Structural Arrangement

- 7 Sub Recipients assigned
- CBOs engaged
- Mapping of Service Delivery Points (SDP) - Hub and spoke arrangement.
- Coordination is by NASCP through its state and LGA structures

HRH/Logistics Optimization

- Community TB/HIV Workers (CTHWs) Team formation
- Engagement of Mentor Mothers
- Capacity building for community teams/ providers at SDPs



Activation

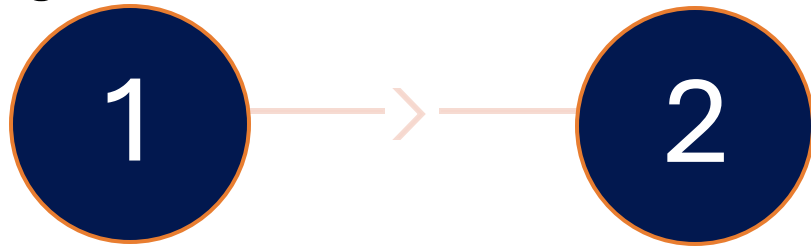
- About 5000 SDPs have been activated to offer HTS to PW as of September 2024.
- At least 1 CTHW team per LGA to offer integrated screening for TB/HIV/Syphilis/Hepatitis to pregnant women at home

Commodities and Tools

- Dual HIV/Syphilis test kits
- Hepatitis RTKs
- Mama packs for newly diagnosed pregnant women with HIV
- Data Collection Tools

Implementation Strategies-Innovative Approach

Innovative approach to testing in unconventional settings



Integrated case finding for TB and HIV using the established community structures

Assess pregnant women identified at home on eligibility for the testing to avoid double-counting

GF N-THRIP Enablers

- RTK: Procurement is in the National pull and assessed through the Hub and Spoke arrangement by the service delivery points.
- Integrated testing of pregnant women for HIV, Syphilis, and Hepatitis B (SDPs, TB/HIV Volunteers).
- Transport support for linking pregnant women with HIV identified in the community to ART.
- Monthly transportation and communication stipends for mentor mothers.

HIV Case Finding Strategies in the Community

Demand Creation Activities: Community dialogue, advocacy and sensitization of key stakeholders



Collaboration with informal birth centers, traditional birth homes, healing/delivery homes, and faith-based homes



Active Case Search: Identification and Testing (House to House Testing)



Linkage of pregnant women with HIV to VTP facilities for care and treatment (Mentor Mothers)



All HIV Negative pregnant women identified and not enrolled are referred for ANC



Data Collection Tools

Electronic and Paper Based Tools are utilized for M/E of these activities

Electronic Based

- National Data Reporting System (NDARS/DHIS)

Paper Based Tools

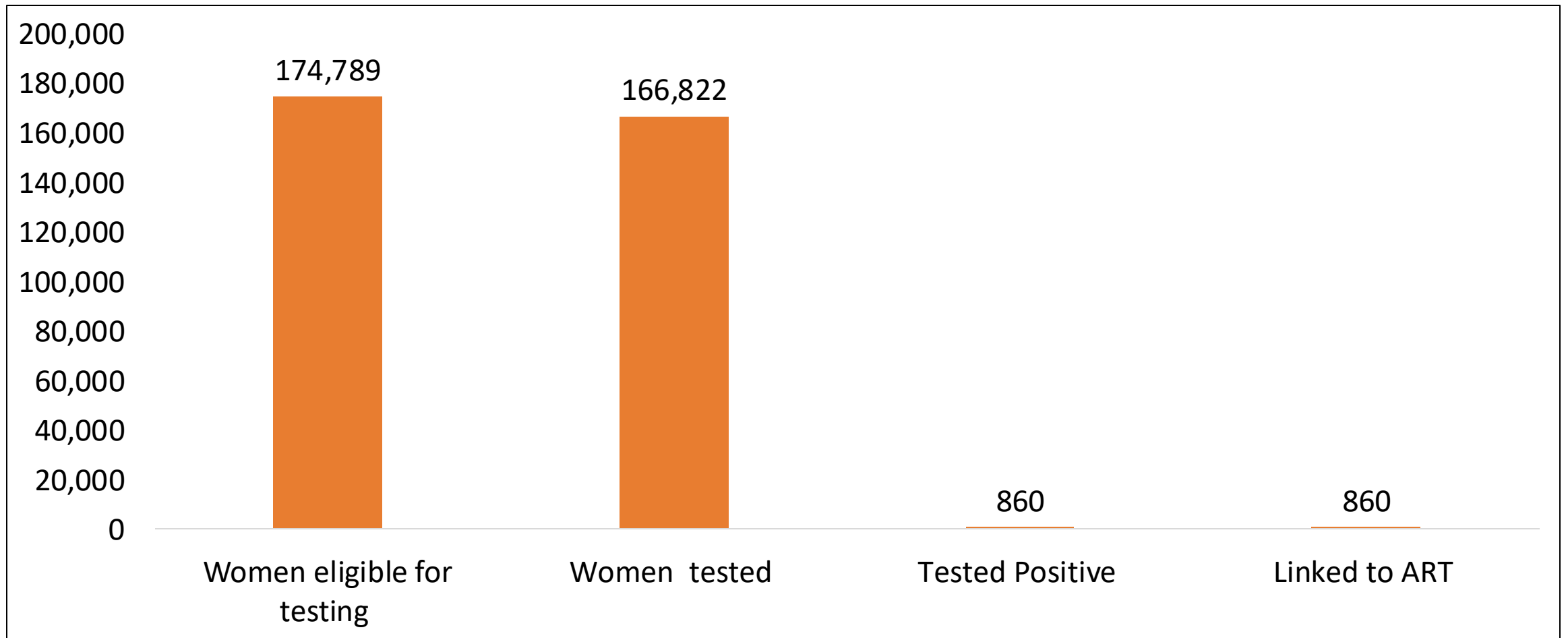
Tools for Home Testing

- Request and Result Form
- Screening and Eligibility checklist for pregnant women
- HTS Register
- HTS Monthly Summary Form
- Daily HTS and Syphilis Worksheet
- Referral Form
- Referral Register

Tools for Unconventional Sites

- Request and Result Form
- PMTCT Spoke Register
- Spoke Monthly Summary Form
- Referral Form
- Referral Register
- Daily HTS and Syphilis Worksheet

Output of Testing of Pregnant Women in Unconventional Setting: IHVN Summary (Jan-Sept 2024)



Challenges

1

Late start up of implementation: All grey areas related to implementation were cleared during the boot camp in May 2024.

2

Inadequate dual test kits and commodities for testing: supply of dual test kit received up to 5 months stock from October. Hepatitis test kits are still a challenge.

3

Knowledge gaps among community structures: This has been resolved through HTS training across 36+1 states.

CONCLUSION

- Community testing for pregnant women plays a crucial role in increasing the uptake of VTP, ensuring service is taken to those who need it where they can be found.
- When thoughtfully planned and effectively implemented, there are improved outcomes and may help promote other forms of health seeking behaviour among clients.

Thank You!



HIV
Impact Network *for*
Vertical Transmission
Elimination

