

Title: Management of HIV exposed babies in Montshioastadt health centre at Mafikeng sub-district of North West province

Key words: HIV exposed babies, Management • Presenter: Mrs Yvonne Nkosi
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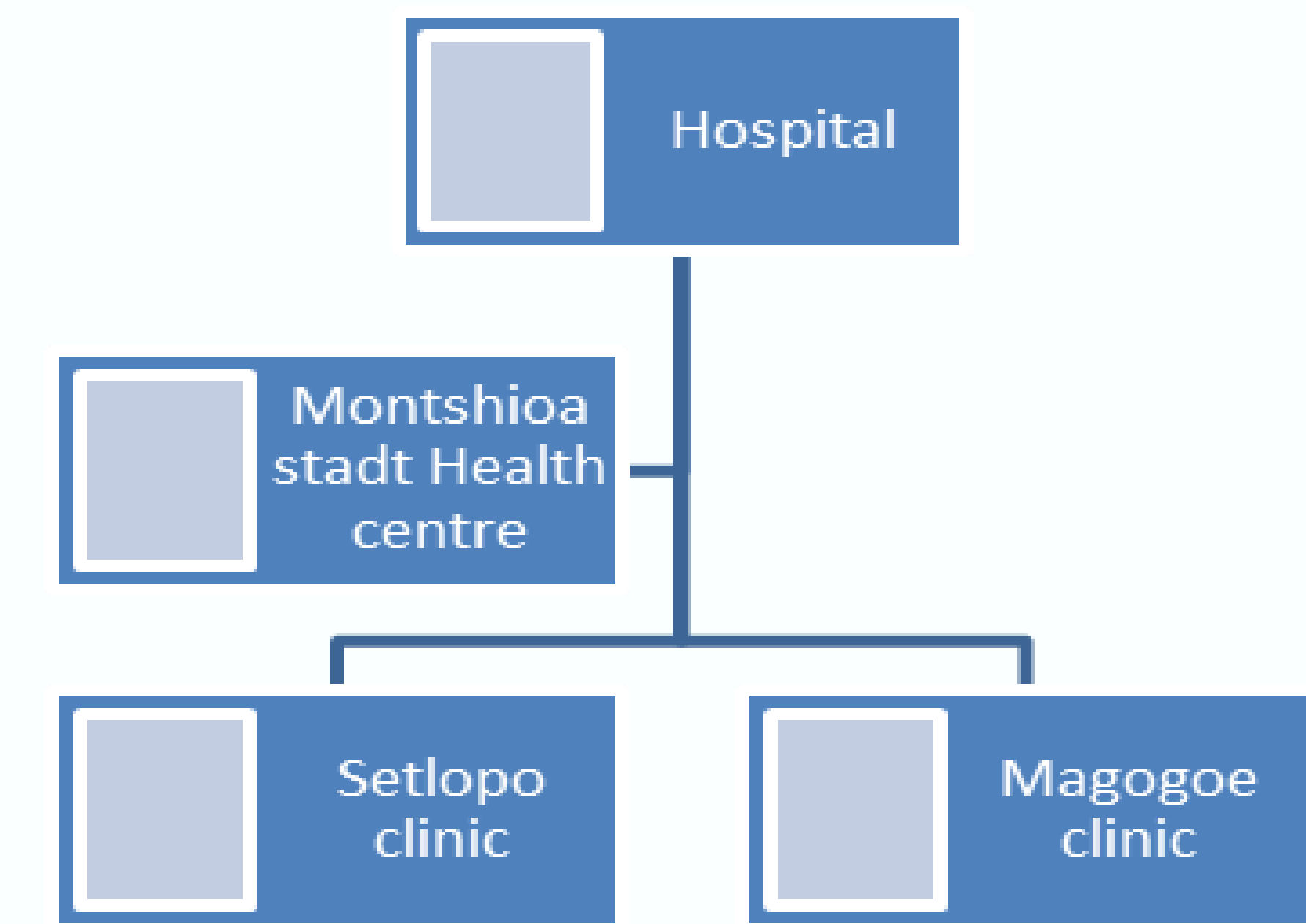
INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The millennium development goal number four aimed at reducing the infant mortality and morbidity rate by two-thirds by 2015 lead to the development of different health strategies and guidelines. One of these is the guideline on prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV which stipulates that PCR should be done on all babies born from HIV infected mothers at 6 and 18 weeks. The aim is to ensure early detection and prompt management of HIV exposed babies thereby increase their life expectancy.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

There is a statistical discrepancy between the high rate of HIV positive mothers and the low number of babies where PCR test was administered at 6 weeks and 18 months implying poor management of HIV positive exposed babies.

Aim: To improve the management and care of HIV exposed babies through nurse training, community awareness creation and proper referral system.



PROJECT PARTNERS

- Mmabatho College Of Nursing
- Montshioa Health centre
- Department of Nursing, NWU-Mafikeng campus



QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROCESS

1. Discussion and training for nurses
2. Discussion and health education for the mothers and care givers attending the health facility.
3. A call reminder system for mothers and care givers.
4. Collaboration with the hospital maternity ward for referral purposes.

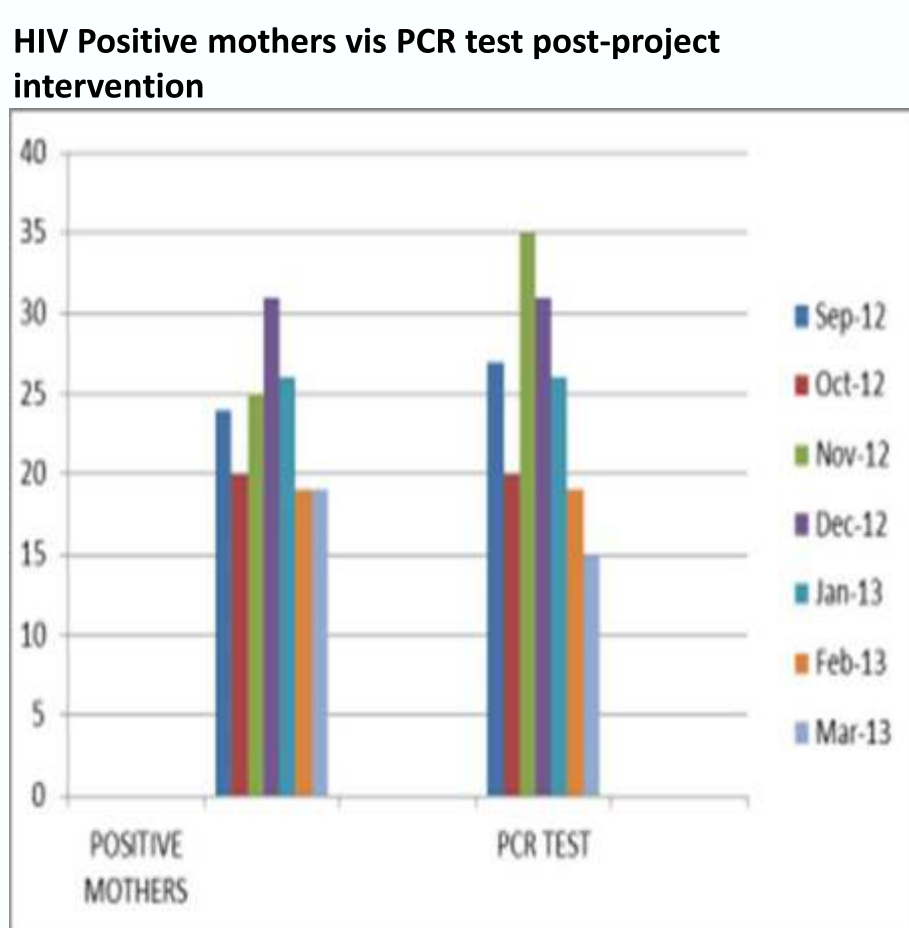
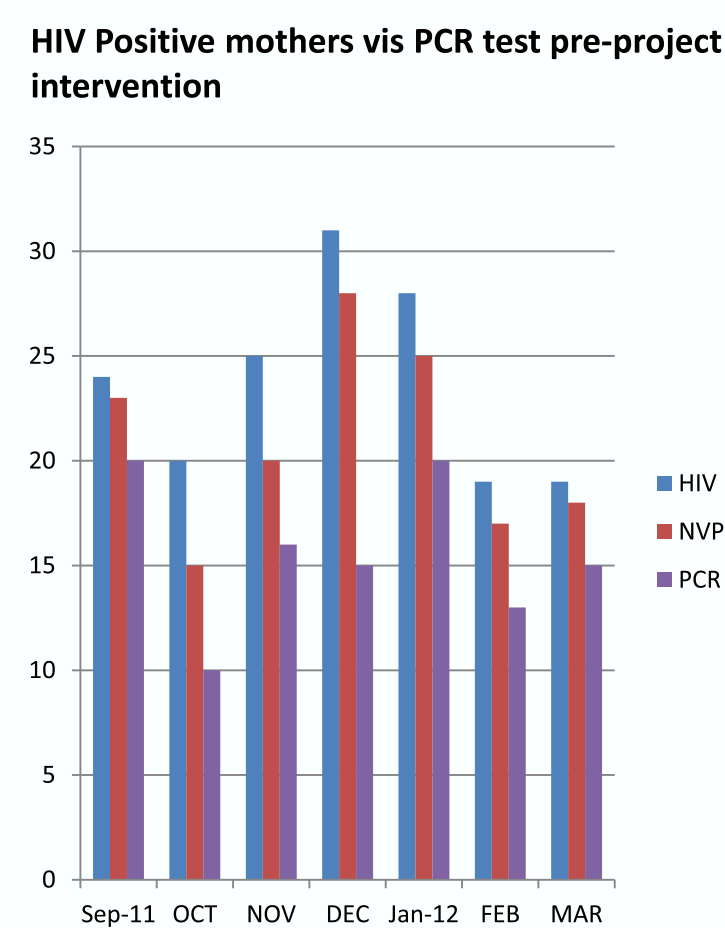


5. An awareness campaign with distribution of flyers and health education given to the public at the three main shopping malls in the area.



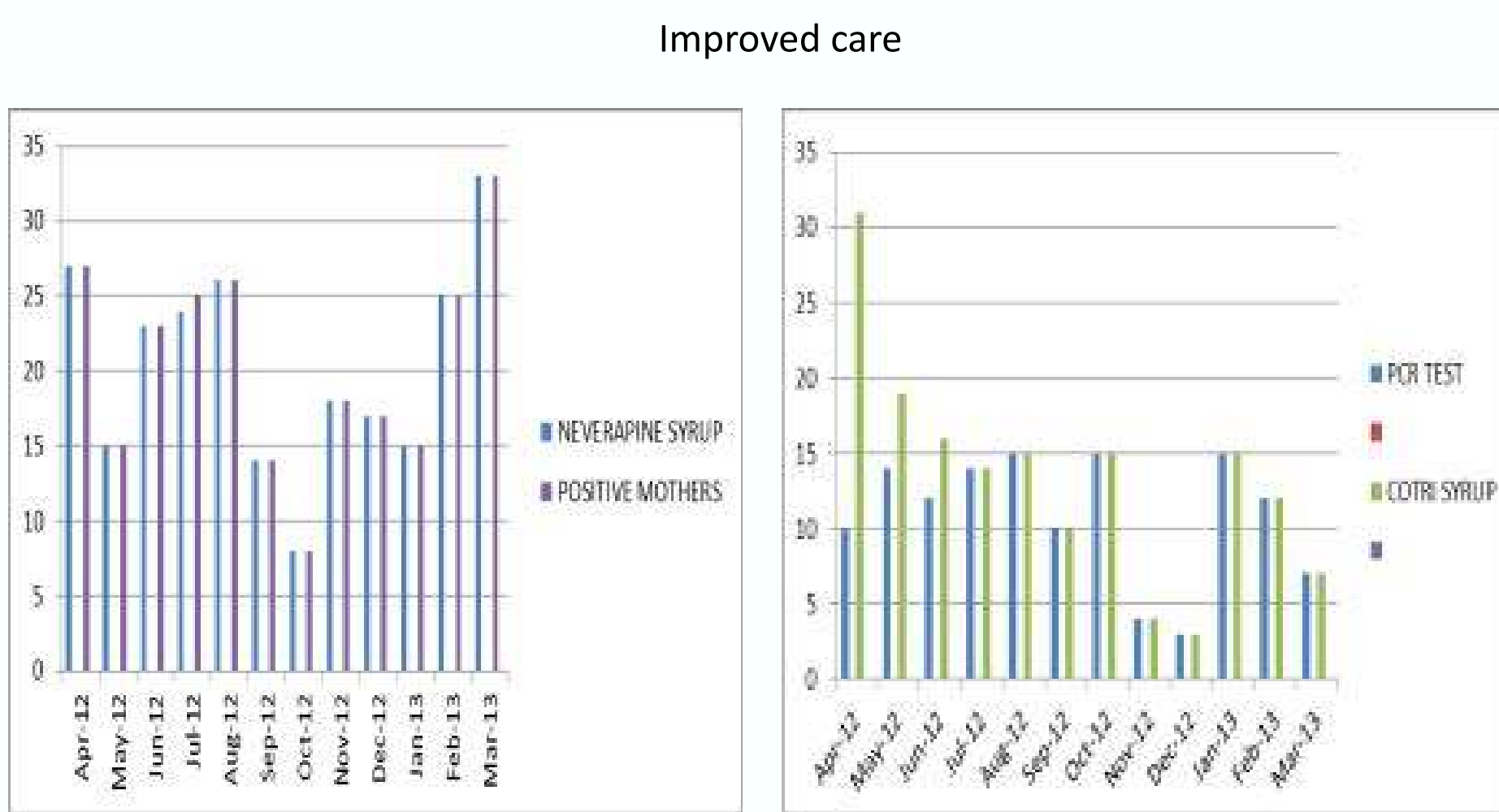
PROJECT OUTCOMES

- Intervention 1: Communication and training for nurses
- Self reported poor knowledge due to insufficient training on PCR and management of children exposed to HIV/AIDS until the relevant age, and staff shortage were identified as systemic causes of poor uptake of PCR tests.
 - Inservice training on the subject thereby increasing the learning opportunities for all the nurses in the health centre especially the new nurses.
 - Nursing staff are now knowledgeable and competent on managing HIV exposed babies.



Intervention 2: Awareness creation for the community

- An awareness was created to the mothers/ care givers that they need not go back to the hospital for PCR and follow up care but can access these services at their nearest clinics. This was intended to reduce the socio economic pressure on mothers/ care givers which affected their ability to bring the babies for follow up care.
- Mothers/ Care givers indicated that the call reminder system was very effective.
- There was an increase in the number of babies tested for PCR after the intervention.



PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS

- More awareness campaign for the general community.
- Health education at all health facilities should be done to encourage mothers/ care givers to bring their babies for testing at 6 and 18 weeks, irrespective of the mothers and infant health and HIV status.
- Training of all healthcare workers regarding PCR testing, initiation of treatment, pre and post and counselling for parents or caregivers.
- Bring all stake holders on board to ensure smooth running and availability of resources.
- Perform PCR testing at individual's homes and/or outreach campaigns.

LESSONS LEARNED

- Community trust of the health system due to collaboration of stakeholders.
- Learning opportunity for students and nurse educators about current guidelines, protocols and health policies.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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