

## Mini-Oral Abstract Presentations 2

# **#36 Current Approaches for Identifying and Managing HIV Treatment Failure Among Children, Adolescents, and Young People In Sub- Saharan Africa: Multi-Country Experience from the New Horizons Collaborative**

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# Current Approaches for Identifying and Managing HIV Treatment Failure among Children, Adolescents and Young People in Sub-Saharan Africa: Multi-country Experience from the New Horizons Collaborative

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**Abstract 36**

# New Horizons (NH) Advancing Pediatric HIV Care Collaborative

## Partners and Collaborators

### Objectives

**Donation Program:**  
In collaboration  
with country Ministries of Health

**Health System Strengthening:**  
Improving care & treatment through public  
health approach

### Focus Areas

**Drug Access**

**Capacity Building**

### Enabling Platforms & Outputs

Drug Delivery – Donation Operations & Formulations

Healthcare Worker Capacity – Tools, Training, Technical Assistance

Operational Research, Cohort Analysis, Publications & Info Sharing

HIV+ Youth/Patient Engagement

**NEW HORIZONS**  
ADVANCING PEDIATRIC HIV CARE

# Background

- **NH Collaborative countries, 2019**

- ✓ *Cameroon*
- ✓ *Eswatini*
- ✓ *Kenya*
- ✓ *Lesotho*
- ✓ *Nigeria*
- ✓ *Rwanda*
- ✓ *Uganda*
- ✓ *Zambia*
- ✓ *Zimbabwe*

- **Partners**

- ✓ *Johnson & Johnson*
- ✓ *Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation*
- ✓ *Partnership for Supply Chain Management*
- ✓ *International AIDS Society*
- ✓ *Collaborative Initiative for Paediatric HIV Education and Research*
- ✓ *Right to Care*

# Methods

- During the 5<sup>th</sup> NH Collaborative Workshop (Nairobi, Kenya, October 2019), 72 participants from 8 NH member countries shared national approaches for identifying and managing treatment failure among children and adolescents living with HIV:
  - ✓ *Ministry of Health representatives*
  - ✓ *HIV experts*
  - ✓ *Youth representatives*
  - ✓ *Global technical experts*
- Five breakout groups reviewed existing gaps and barriers in identification of treatment failure and management of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> line ART
- Multi-country analyses to determine common barriers and potential innovative health system strengthening solutions



# Identification of Treatment Failure

Challenges	Potential Solutions
<b>Low viral load (VL) coverage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tracking of medical charts for VL testing</li><li>• Better documentation of VL results within each medical record</li></ul>
<b>Long turnaround times for VL results</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Scaling up access to point-of-care VL using spoke and hub models</li></ul>
<b>Limited capacity to translate VL results into action</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Implementation of multidisciplinary teams for ART and VL results management</li></ul>

# Management of Treatment Failure

Challenges	Potential Solutions
<b>Dependence on national committees to switch patients to an advanced treatment option</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Capacity building to decentralize systems of managing treatment failure, including through South-to-South technical assistance</li></ul>
<b>Lack of healthcare workers (HCWs) with sufficient expertise to switch patients to a new regimen</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use of treatment failure management algorithm</li><li>• Training, mentorship and coaching of HCWs from expert clinicians on HIV treatment</li></ul>
<b>Stock-outs of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> line ARVs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improving communication between regional or district technical working groups and national teams focused on stock-out risks</li><li>• Better forecasting of need for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> line ARVs</li></ul>

# Conclusions

- In spite of increased attention to the needs of children and adolescents living with HIV, who experience treatment failure, constraints within the health system in sub-Saharan Africa persist
- NH collaborative member countries and organizational partners have identified *promising practices and innovative approaches* to:
  - ✓ decentralize access to 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> line ARVs and advanced ART management
  - ✓ streamline VL testing and VL results interpretation algorithms
  - ✓ increase capacity of HCWs in the management of virologic failure



# Thank you!

