



TITLE: Administration of HIV Medication to Women in Labour with High Risk of HIV Infection: Clinical Evidence, Safety, and Guidelines

DATE: 25 January 2012

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What is the evidence regarding the clinical benefit of the administration of HIV medication to women in labour who have unconfirmed but high risk of HIV infection?
2. What is the safety of the administration of HIV medication to women in labour who have unconfirmed but high risk of HIV infection?
3. What are the evidence-based guidelines regarding the administration of HIV medication to women in labour who have unconfirmed but high risk of HIV infection?
4. What are the evidence-based guidelines regarding changes in practice or methods for childbirth in women who have unconfirmed but high likelihood of HIV infection?

KEY MESSAGE

Limited information was identified regarding medication administration and childbirth methods for women in labour who have unconfirmed but high risk of HIV infection.

METHODS

A limited literature search was conducted on key resources including PubMed, The Cochrane Library (2012, Issue 1), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, Canadian and abbreviated list of major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused Internet search. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. The search was also limited to English language documents published between January 1, 2007 and January 13, 2012. Internet links were provided, where available.

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The summary of findings was prepared from the abstracts of the relevant information. Please note that data contained in abstracts may not always be an accurate reflection of the data contained within the full article.

RESULTS

Rapid Response reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by randomized controlled trials, non-randomized studies, and evidence-based guidelines.

One relevant non-randomized study regarding the administration of HIV medication to women in labour who have unconfirmed but high risk of HIV infection was identified. No relevant health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, or randomized controlled trials were identified. Additional information that may be of interest is included in the appendix.

OVERALL SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The identified non-randomized study evaluated a program designed to prevent the transmission of HIV from mother to child among pregnant women at high risk but unknown status of HIV infection, as well as to accurately identify HIV infection. The abstract does not contain information regarding the clinical benefit, safety, or guidelines regarding medication administration or changes in childbirth practices, however, the full text article may contain further information.

No information specific to women in precipitous labour was identified. No relevant health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized studies, or evidence based guidelines were identified.

REFERENCES SUMMARIZED

Health Technology Assessments

No literature identified.

Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses

No literature identified.

Randomized Controlled Trials

No literature identified.

Non-Randomized Studies

1. Saunders SJ, Weingarten LE, Maan E, Chaworth-Musters T, Forbes JC, Alimenti A, et al. Evaluation of an emergency prevention program for mother to child transmission of HIV in British Columbia. *J Obstet Gynaecol Can.* 2011 Apr;33(4):338-43.

Guidelines and Recommendations

No literature identified.

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APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Guidelines and Recommendations- Antiretroviral Agents for Newborns

2. Panel on Antiretroviral Therapy and Medical Management of HIV-Infected Children. Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in Pediatric HIV Infection [Internet]. Rockville (MD): *AIDSinfo*; 2011 Aug 11. [cited 2012 Jan 20]. Available from: <http://aidsinfo.nih.gov/contentfiles/PediatricGuidelines.pdf>
See Guidance regarding children younger than 12 months
3. Panel on Treatment of HIV-Infected Pregnant Women and Prevention of Perinatal Transmission. Recommendations for use of antiretroviral drugs in pregnant HIV-1-infected women for maternal health and interventions to reduce perinatal HIV transmission in the United States [Internet]. Rockville (MD): *AIDSinfo*; 2011 Sep 14. [cited 2012 Jan 20]. Available from: <http://www.aidsinfo.nih.gov/ContentFiles/PerinatalGL.pdf>
See: Infants Born to Mothers with Unknown HIV Infection Status. p. 136
4. National Guideline Clearinghouse [Internet]. Rockville (MD): National Guideline Clearinghouse. Antiretroviral therapy for HIV infection in infants and children: towards universal access; 2010 [cited 2012 Jan 20]. Available from: [http://www.guideline.gov/content.aspx?id=25688&search=\(hiv+or+aids+or+immunodeficiency\)+and+\(labor*+or+labour*+or+birth*+or+childbirth*+or+cesarean\)](http://www.guideline.gov/content.aspx?id=25688&search=(hiv+or+aids+or+immunodeficiency)+and+(labor*+or+labour*+or+birth*+or+childbirth*+or+cesarean))

Guidelines and Recommendations- Methodologies Unknown

5. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [Internet]. Atlanta (GA): Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Rapid HIV Testing of Women in Labor and Delivery; 2007 Mar 7 [cited 2012 Jan 20]. Available from: http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/testing/resources/factsheets/rt_women.htm