**Supplemental Digital Content 2. Background characteristics of HIV-exposed uninfected infants according to timing of ART exposure (N=624)**

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| **Mother/infant Characteristics**  | **Total (N=624)** | **Timing of ART exposure** |
| **From conception (n=239)** | **From early pregnancy(n=95)** | **From late pregnancy (n=290)** | **P-value a** |
| **Mothers characteristics** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Age in years, median (IQR)(N=621)**  | 28(25-30) | 30(27-33) | 25(24-28) | 27(24-30) | 0.001b |
| **Parity, median (IQR) (N=584)** | 1(0-2) | 1(1-2) | 1(0-1) | 1(0-2) | 0.001b |
| **Educational status (N=590)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| No education | 105(17.8) | 45(19.7) | 15(16.3) | 45(16.7) | 0.57 |
| Primary | 273(46.3) | 106(46.7) | 44(47.8) | 123(45.6) |  |
| Secondary | 177(30.0) | 64(28.1) | 31(33.7) | 82(30.4) |  |
| College  | 35(5.9) | 13(5.7) | 2(2.2) | 20(7.4) |  |
| **BMI (kg/m2), median (IQR) (N=624)** | 21.7(20.1-23.7) | 21.4(20.0-23.7) | 21.1(19.6-23.8) | 21.8(20.1-23.0) | 0.46b |
| **CD4 count during pregnancy (cells/mm3), median (IQR) (N=586)** | 401(272-545) | 425(312-545) | 438(258-604) | 365(252-511) | 0.01b |
| **WHO Clinical Stage (N=624)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stage 1 | 505(81.2) | 151(63.2) | 85(89.5) | 269(92.8) | 0.001 |
| Stage 2 | 95(15.2) | 70(29.3) | 10(10.5) | 15(5.2) |  |
| Stage 3 and 4 | 24(4.2) | 18(7.5) | 0(0.0) | 6(2.1) |  |
| **Maternal disease progression, (N=624)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Early stage  | 491(78.7) | 203(84.9) | 83(87.4) | 211(72.8) | 0.001 |
| Advanced stage  | 135(21.4) | 36(15.1) | 12(12.6) | 79(27.2) |  |
| **Types of ART (N=624)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| TDF-3TC-EFV/NVP | 531(85.1) | 158(66.1) | 92(96.8) | 281(96.9) | 0.001 |
| ZDV-3TC-EFV/NVP | 87(13.9) | 78(32.6) | 3(3.2) | 6(2.1) |  |
| PI-based ARTs | 6(1.0) | 3(1.3) | 0(0.0) | 3(1.0) |  |
| **Infants characteristics** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Gender (N=624)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 329(52.7) | 127(54.0) | 46(48.4) | 156(53.7) | 0.65 |
| Female  | 295(47.3) | 112(46.0) | 49(51.6) | 134(46.2) |  |
| **Gestational age at birth (weeks)** **median (IQR)****(N=613)** | 40(38-41) | 40(38-41) | 39.5(38-41) | 40(39-41) | 0.73b |
| **Breastfeeding status (N=624)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Breastfed  | 588(94.2) | 223(93.3) | 89(93.7) | 276(95.2) | 0.63 |
| Not breastfed/ formula fed | 36(5.8) | 16(6.7) | 6(6.3) | 14(4.8) |  |

Data are number (n) and percent (%) or median and Interquartile range (IQR). ZDV: Zidovudine, 3TC: lamivudine, EFV: efavirenz, NVP: nevirapine, TDF: tenofovir, ART: antiretroviral therapy, PI: Protease inhibitor, BMI: Body mass index, WHO: World Health Organization.

a Statistical tests did not consider missing values.

b Kruskal-Wallis tests, the rest are chi-square test results.