**Supplemental Digital Content 2.** Characteristics of South African Children Living with HIV at ART Initiation, PESS study

# Total

**CLHIV<3 years at ART initiation (ABC/3TC/LPV/r)**

**CLHIV≥3 years at ART initiation (ABC/3TC/EFV)**

3TC=lamivudine, ABC=abacavir, ART=Antiretroviral therapy, EFV=efavirenz,

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **(n=241)a** | **(n=151)a** | **(n=90)a** |
| Age, years | 1.7 [1 - 6] | 0.8 [0 - 1.6] | 7.9 [5 - 10] |
| Female | 111 (46.1) | 69 (45.7) | 42 (46.7) |
| Caregiver |  |  |  |
| Biological mother | 178 (73.9) | 123 (81.5) | 55 (61.1) |
| Grandmother | 32 (13.3) | 15 (9.9) | 17 (18.9) |
| Other family member | 21 (8.7) | 8 (5.3) | 13 (14.4) |
| Other | 9 (3.7) | 5 (3.3) | 4 (4.4) |
| Biological mother alive | 212 (88.0) | 144 (95.4) | 68 (75.6) |
| Child's home contains inside tap water | 141 (58.5) | 84 (55.6) | 57 (63.3) |
| Child's home contains inside toilet | 136 (56.4) | 77 (51.0) | 59 (65.6) |
| Child's home contains electricity | 218 (90.5) | 136 (90.1) | 82 (91.1) |
| Household Wealth Index | 0.8 [-1.0 - 0.8] | -0.1 [-1.0 - 0.8] | 0.8 [-1.0 - 0.8] |
| Study Site |  |  |  |
| Dora Nginza Hospital | 96 (39.8) | 57 (37.7) | 39 (43.3) |
| Kwazakhele Community Health | 21 (8.7) | 15 (9.9) | 6 (6.7) |
| Motherwell Community Health | 30 (12.4) | 20 (13.2) | 10 (11.1) |
| Cecilia Makiwane Hospital | 50 (20.7) | 28 (18.5) | 22 (24.4) |
| Frere Hospital | 44 (18.3) | 31 (20.5) | 13 (14.4) |
| Preterm birth (<37weeks) | 30 (12.4) | 21 (13.9) | 9 (10.0) |
| Ever breastfed | 182 (75.5) | 120 (79.5) | 62 (68.9) |
| Log VL | 5.7 [5.1 - 6.3] | 6.1 [5.5 - 6.6] | 5.2 [4.8 - 5.6] |
| VL≤1 million, copies/mL | 144 (59.8) | 65 (43.0) | 79 (87.8) |
| VL>1 million, copies/mL | 97 (40.2) | 86 (57.0) | 11 (12.2) |
| CD4% | 17.7 [11 - 26] | 19.2 [13 - 27] | 15.1 [7 - 20] |
| <15% | 84 (34.9) | 42 (27.8) | 42 (46.7) |
| 15 to 24% | 70 (29.0) | 44 (29.1) | 26 (28.9) |
| ≥25% | 58 (24.1) | 42 (27.8) | 16 (17.8) |
| CD4 count, cells/mm³ | 638 [350 - 1,236] | 1003 [523 - 1,623] | 359 [226 - 614] |
| Central: Peripheral Skinfold Ratio | 0.9 [0.8 - 1.1] | 0.9 [0.8 - 1.0] | 0.9 [0.8 - 1.1] |

LPV/r=lopinavir/ritonavir, VL=HIV RNA viral load

a Continuous variables are expressed in median [interquartile range]; Categorical variables are expressed in number (percent)

bA higher wealth index indicates more household assets