HIV Prevalence in Children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Less than one percent of Ugandan children under 5 are HIV positive. Infection rates among children are higher in urban areas than in rural areas. Infection rates are the same for girls and boys.

Prevalence of STIs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STI</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syphilis</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herpes simplex type 2</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis B</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The prevalence of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) is very high in Uganda. Almost half of women and over one-third of men have the herpes simplex type 2 virus. About one in ten men and women have Hepatitis B, and 3 percent of men and women have syphilis.

Many are not aware that they have an STI. Among those who have ever had sex and who report that they have not had an STI or symptoms of an STI in the past year, half of women and 40 percent of men tested positive for herpes.

Response Rates and Methods

Prevalence of sexually transmitted infections was obtained from venous blood samples voluntarily provided by women and men age 15-59 who were interviewed in the UHSBS. Of the 19,594 eligible adults, 86% provided blood samples, 97% of which were venous blood samples and 3% dried blood spots (used only for HIV testing). In addition, blood spots were obtained for 88% of the 9,540 eligible children under age 5 years. Although data were obtained for adults 15-59, the results presented here are based on those age 15-49 in order to conform to international norms.

For additional information on the results of the 2004-05 Uganda HIV/AIDS Sero-Behavioural Survey, please contact:

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The 2004-05 UHSBS was conducted by the Ministry of Health. ORC Macro provided technical assistance in the design, implementation and analysis of the survey through the USAID-funded MEASURE DHS programme. Financial and technical assistance was also provided by the Government of Uganda, USAID/Uganda the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the Government of Japan through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).
Results from the 2004-05 Uganda HIV/AIDS Sero-Behavioural Survey (UHSBS)

The 2004-05 Uganda HIV/AIDS Sero-Behavioural Survey (UHSBS) included HIV testing of over 18,000 adults and 8,000 children under 5. The 2004-05 UHSBS shows that 6.4 percent of Ugandan adults age 15-49 are HIV positive.

HIV prevalence is significantly higher among women than men and among urban residents than their rural counterparts.

HIV prevalence is highest in Kampala (8.5 percent) and Central (8.5 percent). West Nile (2.3 percent) and Northeast (3.5 percent) have the lowest HIV prevalence.

For both sexes, rates of infection rise with age, peaking at 12 percent among women in their early 30s and 9 percent among men age 35-44. HIV prevalence is substantially higher among women than men under age 35. At ages 50-59 the pattern reverses, and prevalence among men is higher among women.

HIV infection increases as wealth increases, most notably among women.

Rejection of misconceptions about HIV is widespread. About 4 in 5 adults know that HIV cannot be transmitted by witchcraft or by sharing food with someone who has AIDS.

In 8 percent of couples one or both partners is infected with HIV. Over half of these couples are discordant, that is one partner is infected and the other is not. This finding points to a need for interventions to prevent transmission of HIV to the uninfected partner.