

**ICAP Collaborative PMTCT and Pediatric HIV Strategic Planning Workshop  
In Partnership with Tygerberg Children's Hospital, South Africa and S2S**

Title:	<b>Pediatric HIV testing: An entry point into family centered services</b>
Country	Tanzania
Name/Title:	Dr. Sania Shafi, Clinical Advisor
Session Goal:	To analyze approaches that increase identification of HIV-exposed and HIV-infected children via HIV testing.
Learning Objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Analyze and describe strategies that increase identification of HIV-exposed and HIV-infected infants, children and adolescents via HIV testing</li> <li>2. Determine potential venues for pediatric HIV testing at health facilities and in the community</li> <li>3. Identify effective interventions to overcome implementation challenges in testing children for HIV infection.</li> </ol>
Instructional Method(s):	<p>Interactive instruction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brainstorming</li> <li>• Discussions</li> <li>• Compilation and reporting/feedback to a larger group</li> </ul>
Session Description :	<p><b>0-20 minutes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The host will distribute written learning objectives to participants and provide a brief overview of potential strategies and technical approaches for scaling up pediatric (infants, children and adolescents) HIV testing at health facilities</li> <li>• Two participants will briefly share their experience in <b>successful</b> identification of HIV-positive children in their local settings, as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Participant 1:</b> Existing coverage in pediatric HIV diagnosis and current successful strategies and technical approaches used to identify HIV-exposed and HIV-infected infants, children and adolescents.</li> <li>○ <b>Participant 2:</b> Existing coverage in pediatric enrollment and successful strategies used to enroll HIV-positive children from all entry points (testing venues) into HIV/AIDS care, treatment and support services.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>21-60 minutes:</b> Participants will break up into two groups in order to brainstorm and discuss about scaling up pediatric HIV testing:</p> <p><b>Group 1:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Potential venues for testing children within a health facility.</li> <li>2. Interventions to establish effective referral system for enrollment into HIV/AIDS care and treatment services from all entry points (RCH, OPD, IPD and TB clinics) and from other programs (PMTCT and EID).</li> </ol> <p><b>Group 2:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Potential venues for testing children outside health facilities/in the community</li> <li>2. Possible linkages with HIV/AIDS Care and Treatment Clinic (CTC)</li> <li>3. Technical approaches to overcome implementation challenges.</li> </ol> <p><b>61-90 minutes:</b> One representative from each group will list and share the following issues with bigger audience:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Practicable interventions and venues of identifying HIV-exposed and HIV-infected infants, children and adolescents at health facilities and in the community</li> <li>2. Effective referrals/linkages across programs and all entry points into pediatric</li> </ol>

	HIV/AIDS care and treatment services.
Pre-session Activities:	<p>Participants need to gather country-specific information regarding:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Successful interventions and venues for scaling up pediatric HIV testing in healthcare settings and in community.</li> <li>2. Effective linkages across PMTCT, EID and ART programs.</li> <li>3. Functioning referrals of HIV-infected children from all entry points: RCH, TB clinics, OPD, IPD, other pediatric services and community into HIV/AIDS care, treatment and support services.</li> </ol>

### **Session Notes and Summary**

**Session name:** Pediatric HIV Testing: An entry point into family centered services (non-early infant diagnosis)

**Note taker name:** Sara Riese

**Major discussion points:**

- 1. Potential venues for testing children within a health facility**
  - a. ANC-encourage all pregnant women to bring in other children for testing
  - b. PITC-testing routinely offered to all children who come into contact with the health system. OPD, RCH, ER, malnutrition unit, EPI unit, TB clinic, and CTC
  
- 2. Possible interventions to establish effective referral systems for enrollment into care**
  - a. Internal referral system with a focal person
  - b. Two-way referral system
  - c. Establishment of a family referral system using family enrollment form
  - d. Strengthen post-test counseling, use of IEC material
  - e. Work with PLHA associations to bring family members for testing
  - f. Community sensitization (workplaces, religious and social gatherings, formal gatherings)
  - g. Use of IEC material (at CTC/all entry points/community)
  - h. Establishing comprehensive and integrated HIV service provision for children
  - i. Capacity building of Health care workers for pediatric counseling, ART care, treatment support
  - j. External referral linkages between facilities
  
- 3. Potential venues for testing children outside the health facility**
  - a. Location where women receive child support grants (example of South Africa)
  - b. Community support groups
  - c. Door to door testing
  - d. Faith based organizations
  - e. Schools (consent?)

- f. Market days
  - g. Children's home/orphanages
- 4. Possible interventions to establish effective linkages from outside venues into CTC**
- a. Outreach advocacy in markets, pmtct
  - b. PLWHA groups
  - c. Community care centers-putting care closer to the community
  - d. Roaming physicians
- 5. Technical approaches to overcome implementation challenges**
- a. Community care centers-putting care closer to the community
  - b. Roaming physicians

**Remaining questions:**

At what age can a 'child' consent for an HIV test?

Has any country had experiences testing street children? How do they deal with the issue of consent?