

Building comprehensive paediatric HIV care for Nigeria

Unit 3

Paediatric Antiretroviral Therapy Workshop
Institute for Human Virology-Nigeria ACTION
Abuja
24-28 July 2006

Goals



- Appreciate how HIV as a chronic disease requires an approach different from acute care
- Understand the interinstitutional, interdisciplinary, and family-focused nature of a successful paediatric HIV program
- Understand the importance of establishing standards of care

Unique challenges presented by paediatric HIV



- Chronic disease in healthcare system oriented towards acute disease
- Lethal if not treated
- Medically complex, especially antiretroviral therapy
- Tremendous capacity of virus to evolve resistance sets very high standard for treatment and adherence
- Affects whole families and communities- at least one parent always infected or deceased

Unique challenges presented by paediatric HIV (2)



- Fear, denial, stigma, discrimination
- Preventing MTCT at its source- infection of young women- requires changes in attitudes and behavior, never an easy task
- PMTCT requires collaboration between institutions and disciplines
- Prevention of post-natal MTCT presents unresolved dilemmas

Meeting the challenge of paediatric HIV



Multiple institutions

- The family
- The paediatric HIV clinic
- Maternity clinics
- Laboratory
- Pharmacy
- Public health authorities
- TB control program
- OVC services

Multiple disciplines

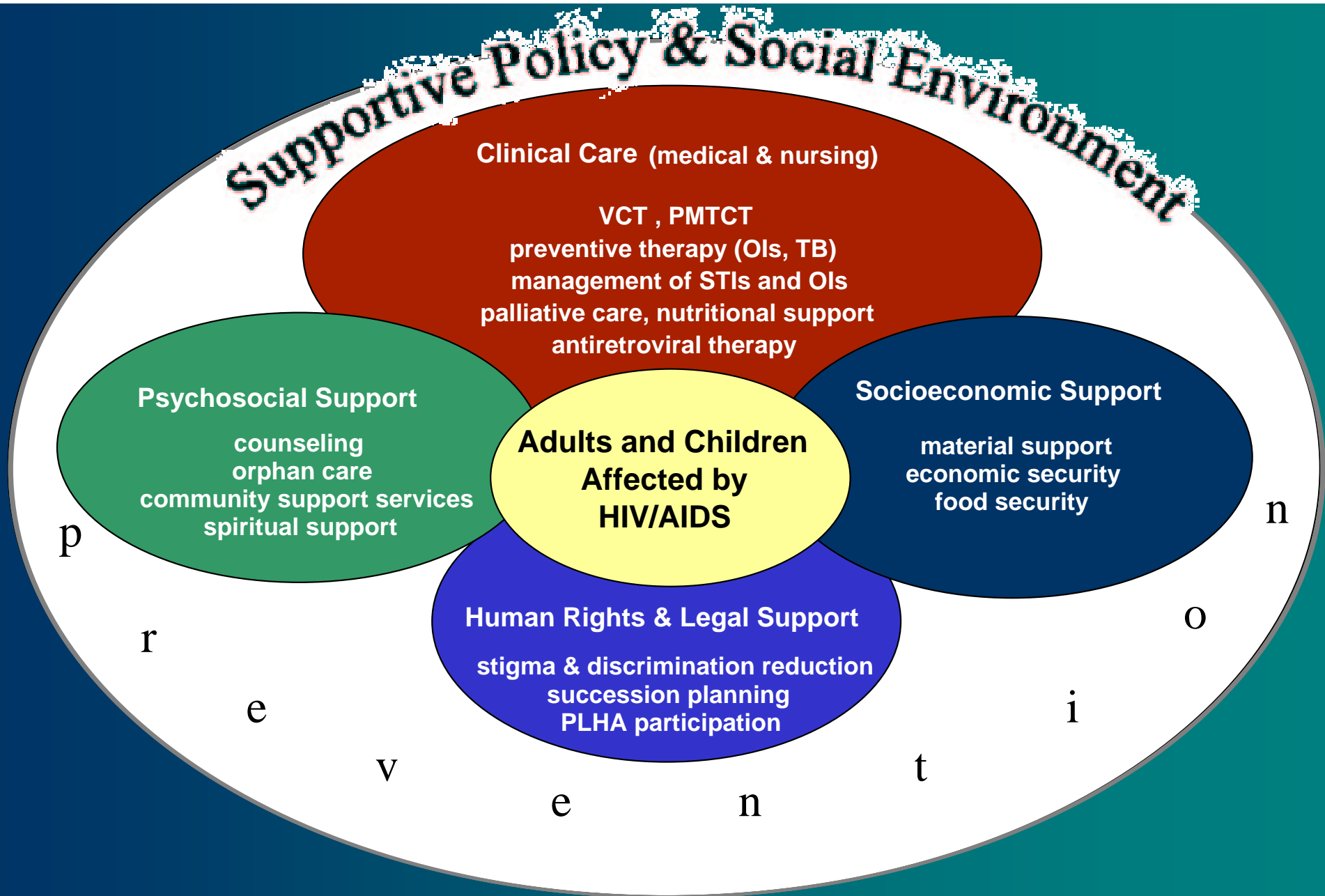
- Physicians
- Nurses
- Counselors
- Laboratory
- Pharmacy
- Social work
- Administrators
- Community leaders
- Patient groups

Where are our patients?



- Most children with HIV infection have not been diagnosed
- Most parents not diagnosed
- Denial, fear, and belief that medical system has little to offer
- Belief that if child appears well, she must not have HIV
- Belief that child born before mother diagnosed, child cannot have HIV
- May be the least likely to access medical care: the poor, orphans
- Criteria for screening for screening children, based on prevalence, resources, etc.

Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Care and Support



Principles of Chronic Disease Management



- Requires patient and health providers to work as a team
- Demands consistent relationship between patient and health-care team members
- Requires regular interdisciplinary care team meetings to discuss care issues, review treatment protocols, express concerns and support colleagues

Principles of Chronic Disease Management, continued



Ongoing care involves regular visits with clinic and support staff to:

1. Monitor disease status and treatment effect
2. Provide ready response to emerging health and socioeconomic issues
3. Maintain easily retrievable documentation

Principles of Chronic Disease Management, continued



- Support for care team members is essential for providing quality care and preventing frustration and burn-out
- Currently available treatment is lifelong. It is to be expected that motivation to maintain wellness and adherence to treatment will vary during the course of the disease

Systems approach to meeting complex medical needs



- No one person can be responsible for everything- a problem that affects care is a problem for everyone
- Parts of the system must work together
- Clear procedures for decision-making
- Standards of care/standard operating procedures
 - Driven by consensus
 - Written down

Systems approach to meeting complex medical needs (2)



- Documentation of care: not just paperwork!
 - Acts as checklist to be sure everything is done
 - Measuring outcome
 - Quality assurance
- Critical steps have back-ups, e.g. patient is given verbal *and* written instructions *and* demonstrates dosing *and* pharmacist reinforces *and* detailed medication history done at follow up

Standards of Care



The purpose of setting standards of care is:

- To promote delivery of the highest possible quality of care
- To establish measures for evaluating and improving client services

This requires:

- Deciding how to achieve standards
- Applying them in clinical practice
- Evaluating to see if they have been achieved

Standards of Care, continued



Clinical services include affordable and standardized practices based on international and national guidelines:

- PMTCT
- Management of HIV-related conditions and opportunistic infections
- Laboratory services
- Secure supply of prescribed medications
- Antiretroviral therapy (ART)
- Post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) for occupational injuries and rape
- Psychosocial support
- Palliative care