



**Mass Screening, HIV/AIDS Awareness  
Campaign, Prevention of Mother-to-Child  
Transmission and Orphan Care**



**Drugs for AIDS and HIV Patients**  
...adding years to life

## **Fulbright Sabbatical in Nigeria – The Experience**

After one year of serving as Fulbright Scholar at the University of Lagos, Nigeria, Dr. Adeyeye finished her sabbatical year in Nigeria. She returned to her job at Duquesne University in January 2006. The experience, according to her was very fulfilling and productive. Dr. Adeyeye was able to set up a strong collaboration team for a pilot bio-equivalency clinical trial study of different anti-retroviral drugs at the University of Lagos. She also registered DAHP with Nigeria's Corporate Affairs Commission, launched DAHP and laid the foundation for future missions. She currently develops in her lab in Duquesne University HIV/AIDS drugs for children.

## **DAHP and Partner Received \$150,000 Grant from Variety Children's Lifeline**

DAHP and Baptist AIDS Awareness and Prevention Programme (BAAPP), Ogbomoso received the \$150,000 to carry out Prevention-of-Mother-to-Child-Transmission (PMTCT) using the Baptist Medical Centre, Ogbomoso, Oyo State, Nigeria. The grant, awarded by Variety Children's Lifeline (VCL), was earmarked for the purchase of a flow cytometer (used for monitoring CD4 of HIV/AIDS patients), treatment of pregnant women in the last trimester, Caesarean section to deliver the babies and treatment of the babies after delivery.

### **First Workshop on PMTCT in Ogbomoso**

On March 15, 2006, DAHP/BAAPP organized the PMTCT workshop to educate and dialogue with stakeholders. This was in preparation for the PMTCT program that was launched shortly after the workshop. Some of the questions or facts discussed include:

- Pregnant women could have babies that are HIV-free
- The blood of the pregnant woman may not necessarily mix with that of the baby
- Awareness education on how women can protect their babies from infection
- Breastfeeding could be done if mothers are on the right drug combination



**Speaker and Participants at the Stakeholders Meeting**



## **Recognition and Endorsement of DAHP by Nigeria's Ministry of Health**

A needed endorsement was given DAHP for the Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission Program in March 2006. This was as a result of a proposal submitted to the Ministry of Health. The recognition made it easier for international agencies to work or collaborate with DAHP.

## **DAHP Received Grant-in-aid Donation of 10,200 Testing Kits from Abbott Laboratories and Boehringer Ingelhelm via Axios Corporation of France**

In March, 2006, a PMTCT grant was submitted to Axios Corporation of France. The proposal was for 10,200 Determine® testing kits, 20 bottles of Viramune® suspension. DAHP received full funding for the testing kits and Viramune. The first batch of the kits and drug (5,100 kits and drug) arrived at the end of April. The second batch was received in August 2006 after a progress report was submitted.

## **Launching of Rapid Testing and CD4 Monitoring**

The Determine® test kit and flow cytometer (used for monitoring CD4 of patients) were launched at the Baptist Medical Centre on May 1-3, 2006. Guava Technologies' Mr. Phillipe Durbiano who came from France trained hospital workers and project staff on the use of the flow cytometer. The training on use of the testing kits was conducted by the hospital laboratory scientist, Mrs. Grace Edohworhru.



**The Lab Scientist Demonstrating the Use of the Flow Cytometer**

## **DAHP Launched on May 10 in Lagos**

Our organization was launched in Lagos in the Southern part of Nigeria on May 10, 2006. The keynote Speaker was Professor Wole Soyinka, the first African Nobel Laureate in Literature. The launcher was Dr. Tony Marinho, a medical practitioner and literalist. Other dignitaries that attended included the Deputy Vice Chancellor of the University of Lagos, Professor Sofola, The Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy, Professor Coker, local medical practitioners and various Media Houses.

## **Documentary of DAHP Activities by NBC (USA) Television Volunteers and Launch of Mass Screening**

Variety Children's Lifeline, the funding organization of the PMTCT program sent a team of NBC photo-journalists to Nigeria for a documentary of DAHP's launch of the mass screening. The team was in Ogbomoso from May 12-15 during which hundreds of people (including school students) were tested for HIV. Some women, including one whose baby was delivered by Caesarean Section (C-section) using VCL's funding

were interviewed. Orphans were also visited in their homes and caregivers interviewed.

### Mass Rapid HIV Testing Began in May, 2006

The mass rapid testing started in Ogbomoso Baptist Medical Centre, Oyo State on May 12, 2006. The awareness by the community brought out people who wanted to be tested.

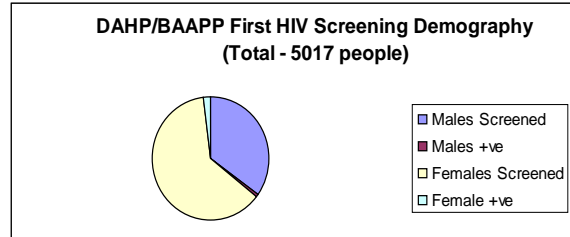


A tester in Ogbomoso with the Determine® test kit

The coordinating of these activities was done by our partner, Dr. Gbadero of BAAPP and Chief Pediatrician of the Baptist Medical Center in Ogbomoso (Oyo State). The mass testing was also done at Ladoke Akintola University in Ogbomoso. and in Ejigbo, Osun State. The project was funded by Variety Children’s Lifeline of California, USA. It involves screening 10,000 people. The goal was to identify 200 pregnant women, treat them before delivery and prevent MTCT through optimal obstetric interventions. DAHP provided a flow cytometer for CD4 monitoring to the Baptist Hospital, Ogbomoso, as part of the goals of the funded project.

At the end of July 2006, a total of 5,017 people (1789 males and 3228 females) were tested in Ogbomoso and environs (Figure 1) during this phase of our campaign. 147 people have been found to be positive for HIV. The prevalence in males is 2.5% and 3.2% in women. 2%

of the positive women were or are currently pregnant. The sero-positive people have been counseled and referred to treatment center in UCH. The low prevalence rate is partly due to the student sub-population in our screening targets.



The second campaign of the screening and PMTCT was expanded in August 2006 from Baptist Hospital in Ogbomoso, Oyo State and Baptist Clinic in Ejigbo to Lagos State. Our partners include Amukoko Community Partners for Health (AMCPH) in Ajeromi Ifelodun local government (LG) and various hospitals and clinics in Surulere, and Shomolu LGs in Lagos State. The focus is on pregnant women only. Over 3,000 people have been screened since the second campaign.

### PMTCT - Babies delivered by Caesarean Section (C-section)

To prevent MTCT, C-section surgeries were performed on positive pregnant women using the VCL fund. The 1<sup>st</sup> surgery was performed in May at the cost of 30,000 naira each. 15 babies have been delivered by C-section and 14 by normal delivery at the Baptist Hospital as at September 2007. The picture below showed some mothers and their babies.



### **Orphans and Vulnerable Children's Program Started**

The care for orphans and vulnerable children that are affected by HIV/AIDS started in May 2006. This was based on obvious critical needs of the children of PLWHA women. There are about 120 of such vulnerable children, most of who were never tested for HIV. Therefore, some of the children were screened for HIV. For the most vulnerable children DAHP distributes on a biweekly basis, food (e.g., beans, milk), books and clothing items plus school examination fees as needed. In September 2007, the number of such orphans increased.

### **Awareness and Prevention Campaign to Secondary Schools**

Regular visits were made to various secondary and primary schools in Oyo and Osun States of Nigeria to reinforce HIV awareness and prevention. The visits to the schools were always started with HIV awareness and prevention talk followed by questions and answers. In July 2006, a book published by Professor Adeyeye "Out of the Mouths of Children...and What Everybody Should Know about HIV/AIDS" was distributed to various schools in Osun and Lagos States.



**Books Being Distributed to Secondary School Children by Professor Adeyeye in Ifewara, Osun State**



A survey was conducted in some schools in June 2007 to assess the effectiveness of the literature and previous visits on HIV/AIDS knowledge and awareness.



**Distribution of HIV/AIDS Awareness Book in Lagos Secondary School**

The distribution of the books to over 2000 students and teachers was made possible by our donors.

## **Orphan Day**

An orphan day was organized in August 2006 where more interaction with the children took place. Donated clothing items and food were also distributed at the event.



Stakeholders that participated include doctors and other key health care personnel from 14 hospitals and clinics



**Some Children Eating During the Orphans Day**

in Lagos. The facilitators were Drs. Dosu Gbadero, Bosun Babajide and Dele Akilo. A total of 40 people participated in the workshop.

## **Pediatric Treatment Launched**

Treatment of pediatric (6 months and older) children started in September 2006. The 2-drug combination is made up of existing anti-retroviral drugs and is currently dispensed to 8 children. Monitoring of the CD4 is being done to establish the efficacy of the therapy. 7 more children were added in October 2007.

## **Memorandum of Understanding Signed with Ladoke Akintola Teaching Hospital**

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) between DAHP and Ladoke Akintola University Teaching Hospital of Technology (LAUTECH) in Osogbo, Osun State, was signed in October 2006. The highlight of the MOU is the use of LAUTECH and its associate hospitals for the PMTCT program. Other terms of the MOU include provision of free testing kits, flow cytometer (if possible), assisting sero-positive pregnant women to receive treatment in the last trimester, funding Caesarean section for indigent women and facilitating treatment of the newborns and peditrics.

## **PMTCT and Rapid Testing Workshops in LAUTECH, Osogbo, Osun State**

A PMTCT and rapid testing workshops were held at LAUTECH in November 29, 2006. A total of 60 stakeholders (that included medical doctors, nurses and laboratory scientists from the teaching hospitals and its associate clinics) participated. The attendees were also trained in the use of the Determine test kits. Dr. Gbadero and the lab scientist from Baptist Hospital, Ogbomosho were the workshop facilitators. Dr. Adeniji (the doctor in charge of LAUTECH PMTCT program) coordinated the program. We hope to support this center in the nearest future with needed funding.

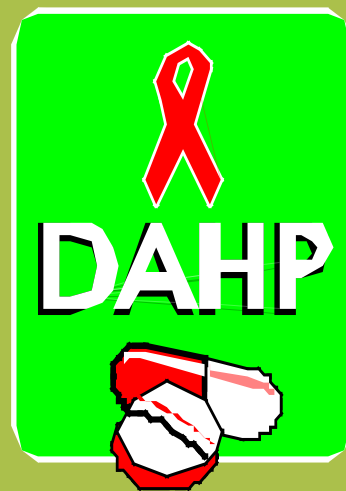
## **Extended Family Home for Orphans (Sarah's Place) – Ogbomosho**



DAHP is planning to build a 7-bedroom, 4,800 square feet home for HIV/AIDS orphans in Ogbomosho, Oyo state, Nigeria. Sarah's Place will serve as a home for 10-15 children. The motivation to build the house developed from two of the children that DAHP cares for who died of non-HIV related childhood illnesses. The home will also be an after school care center for another 10-15 orphans having one parent. The after school program will include tutoring and providing a meal to the children daily before they go to their different homes. The residence will be staffed by 2-3 live-in mothers and 2 teachers who themselves are people living with HIV/AIDS but which are receiving HAART and are relatively healthy. The facility will be designed to have space for training of women in crafts and small-scale industry.

**A temporary home** (a 2-apartment house) is being rented. The home will be opened in early 2008. The cost for a year's rent and equipping the home is \$2,750. Feeding of the estimated 20 children (Live-in and after school) is estimated to be about \$11,000 per year. The permanent home will cost about \$85,000 to build.

We would like to thank all our donors for their contributions toward the different endeavors of our organization. Without you, the care for orphans, youth education about HIV/AIDS, PMTCT assistance given to pregnant women will not take place. Your continued support is coveted.



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