Achieve 80% reduction in the number of new paediatric infections

Disparities in ANC and delivery care exist by wealth status and urban-rural residence

HIV prevalence among adults 15-49 appears to be declining

Overall, 5.3% of adults were estimated to be living with HIV in 2009, though levels among pregnant women were reported to be greater than 7%. [13] 3.9% of young women (15-24) were living with HIV, as compared to 1.6% of young men. [14]

Only modest gains have been made in improving levels of HIV testing among pregnant women and in delivery care.

Coverage of ARVs for PMTCT is low (at 27%), though there is evidence that among the mothers that are receiving services, loss-to-follow up of their infants is minimal. Robust efforts will be needed if Cameroon is to meet its national targets for PMTCT by 2015.

The Bottom Line

If Cameroon is to achieve national targets for PMTCT in 2015, the following actions are essential:

1. Preventing new infections among young women and increasing access to family planning services among HIV-positive women
2. Improving equitable access to antenatal care and skilled attendants at delivery. High out of pocket spending on health must be addressed. Government spending on health is below Abuja Declaration Commitments of 15%.
3. Improving quality and timeliness of antenatal care and PMTCT services.
4. Increasing utilization of PMTCT services within ANC. The moderately high reach of ANC services is an opportunity to reach HIV-positive pregnant women that should not be missed.

Only about quarter of women and children in need of ARVs for PMTCT received them in 2009


In 2009, an estimated 41% of women were tested for HIV during ANC visits even though ANC attendance (82%) and coverage of testing services in ANC is relatively high (79%).

Policy Environment

- Costed PMTCT scale-up plan (2011-2015) in place
- No formal sub-national plans, but District Action Plans include PMTCT activities as a major domain.

Budget Environment

- Global Funds (GFATM) recipient: R. 3.4 & 5 [10]
- PEPFAR Programme Country

Domestic Health Financing

- Govt expenditure on health, as per cent of total govt spending: 8.1% [10]
- Total Health Financing: [12]
  - Out of pocket: 68%; Public: 21%; Aid: 7%; Private (pooled risk): 4%

Strategic Focus of National Plan [10]

- Develop and publicize national PMTCT and paediatric care standards and tools
- Strengthen the health system through decentralisation and training
- Strengthen the implementation and quality of the package of PMTCT and pediatric care services
- Strengthen the community-based health care system.
- Strengthen capacities of laboratories and transportation networks
- Improve the supply system for ARVs and associated PMTCT and paediatric care products
- Strengthen the information system and enhance monitoring, evaluation and operational research.

National targets by 2015 [9]

- Achieve 80% reduction in the number of new paediatric infections
- Domestic Health Financing

Table: PMTCT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estimated # of children (0-14) living with HIV</td>
<td>54,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>19,522,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual births</td>
<td>711,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neonatal mortality rate</td>
<td>30/1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant mortality rate</td>
<td>95/1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 5 mortality rate</td>
<td>15/1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maternal mortality ratio</td>
<td>600/100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult (15-49) HIV prevalence</td>
<td>3.3% [4.9% - 5.8%]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV prevalence young people (15-24)</td>
<td>female: 3.9% [3.1% - 5.4%] male: 1.6% [1.2% - 2.1%]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated # pregnant women living with HIV</td>
<td>34,000 [18,000 - 50,000]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV prevalence among adults 15-49 (%)</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV prevalence among adults 15-49 (15-49 yrs)</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV prevalence among adults 15-49 (2000-2007)</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV prevalence among adults 15-49 (2004)</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV prevalence among adults 15-49 (2006)</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV prevalence among adults 15-49 (2008)</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV prevalence among adults 15-49 (2009)</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV prevalence among adults 15-49 (2011)</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV prevalence among adults 15-49 (2015)</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chart: PMTCT

Figure: PMTCT

Graph: PMTCT
References

[7] Demographic and Health Surveys 2004
[17] Cameroon Ministry of Health