



Rapporteur Track B: Clinical science, Treatment and Care

LEAD RAPPORTEUR: Dr Adriel Moodley (RSA)

Rapporteur service with a smile



Overarching trends

- COVID 19 pandemic = **global negative effect** on HIV services
(Priority shifted to R&D for COVID)

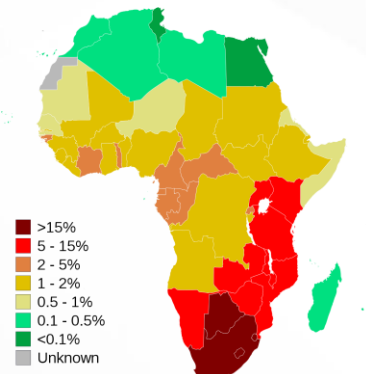


- **Alternative strategies** developed to counter:
(Telemedicine, digital outreach, Extended scripts, long term dispensing)

- **Key populations** (MSM, Sex workers, inmates, drug users) experienced **worsening infection rates** and **decreased service attention**

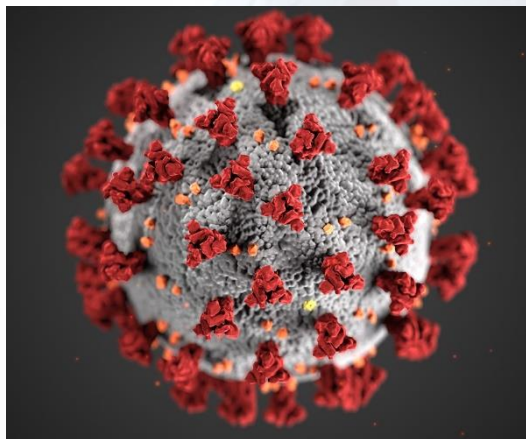
Stigma and criminalization increases burden

- **Covid 19 infection worsens HIV infection** and Vice versa



Overarching trends

- Constant **evolution of new variants** in Africa
New resistant strains?
Effect on ARV regimes to be determined
- Effective **ART** regimes and distribution our **best weapon** against HIV



New Developments ICASA 2021

- New genotyping assay developed in Cameroon

Aimed to find **resistance patterns** in HIV1 variants in west Africa

Great value in **monitoring resistance emergence** to current ART

Good overall success in **performance**

- Same team used the assay to

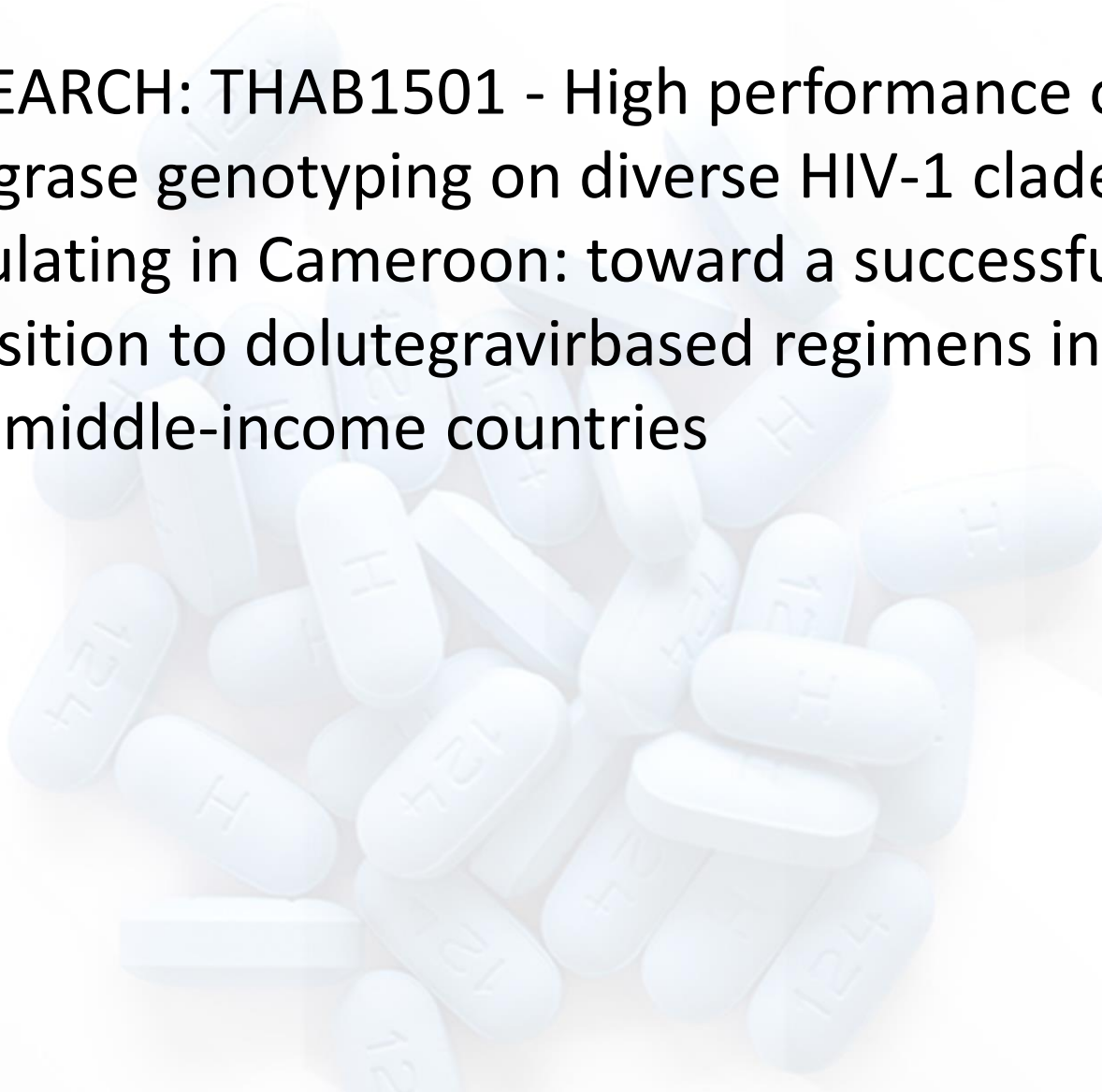
Determine 3rd line ART effectiveness in **known resistant patients**

After 21 months, 81% were suppressed on current 3rd line regimen

Great value in showing **adherence overcoming even resistant variants**

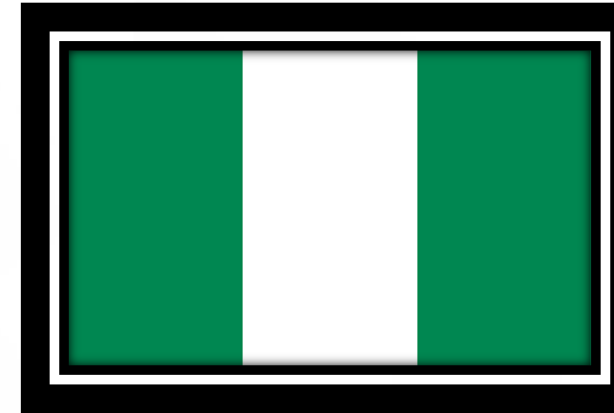


RESEARCH: THAB1501 - High performance of integrase genotyping on diverse HIV-1 clades circulating in Cameroon: toward a successful transition to dolutegravirbased regimens in low and middle-income countries



- Retrospective comparative cohort study showed
Telemedicine consults done on follow up patients
Improved adherence
Viral load suppression improved

Successfully showed telemedicine intervention as
effective as in-person



KADUNA, NIGERIA



RESEARCH: THAB1502 - Effectiveness of tele-EAC on viral suppression in the covid-19 pandemic era in Kaduna, Nigeria

New Developments ICASA 2021

- Survey across central and west Africa performed:

Extended scripts and long dispensing were effective alternative Strategies

Use of information technology and telecommunications showed attendance improvement

Raised the importance of turning alternative solutions into long term plans post COVID

REFERENCE- Plenary Topic: Impact of COVID on HIV Services



New Developments ICASA 2021

- Retrospective analysis done:

HIV2 variant patients studied

Morbidity risk increases with age due to slower nature of HIV2

Opportunistic infections (Lung infections) highest cause

Great value in improving prophylaxis and screening

Great value in adding to limited knowledge of HIV2



© Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.



RESEARCH: THAB1601 - Morbidity and associated factors among patients living with HIV-2 in West Africa

New Developments ICASA 2021



- Retrospective cohort study done in 2 Nigerian provinces

Large sample size assessed (11228 patients)

5.73% rebound viral load (1000+ copies/ml) despite ART

This puts Nigeria below 95% suppression rate needed to be under control

Value in need for additional interventions for those with risk of viral rebound.



RESEARCH: THAB1602 - Prevalence of viral rebound and associating factors in people with diagnosed HIV in Nigeria

- A directed Q&A session on covid 19 management in SA

Africa continues to be one of the **most affected** regions

- **Poor vaccination** rates
- **Disjointed** reaction of government
- New omicron variant threatens again

Solutions to overcome:

- **Strong leadership** in a central role to make medical decisions (Nigeria =good example)
- Need for **widespread testing** (not just where labs available)
-

- NB The need for **CENTRAL SUPPLIES PLATFORM FOR AFRICA** to get supplies and vaccines



shutterstock.com · 1067569718

RESEARCH: Plenary Topic:
Management of COVID 19 in Africa:
Impact & Way forward

Take away recommendations

1. The need to turn current alternative strategies into long term solutions
 - Currently contingency plan
 - Need to **extend post COVID**
2. **ART milestone + cornerstone + bedrock** for HIV control
 - Still effective in combating despite resistance
 - Focus on distribution and adherence programmes
3. **Co-managing** COVID19 and HIV infection concurrently requires focused attention on **developing Africas ability to resource itself** (not depend on international partners)
 - Central supplies depot
 - Self made vaccine production
 - Testing and laboratory services

