HIV/AIDS IN PEADIATRICS: WHAT HAS MAJORLY CAUSED ITS PREVALENCE IN RURAL UGANDA.

Sarah Naiga Noah, Makerere university

Over the years, there’s been an ongoing fight against the spread of HIV/AIDS and in this fight, women and babies constitute the endangered breed. Whereas numerous studies have been done on causes and spread of HIV/AIDS, very few studies have been done on the major causes of paediatric HIV/AIDS in the rural setting. Using the 2006 UDHS and a primary data source, results reveal that in rural Uganda, Paediatric HIV/AIDS is still prevalent because of the ignorance of the mother, the fact that women in rural areas still make use of Traditional Birth attendants, For example, rural women were less likely than their Urban counterparts to know that HIV can be spread through breastfeeding (71% versus 80%). And only 49.3% of the rural population knew the Mother to child transmission can be reduced through special drugs taken during pregnancy compared 66.7 % of their urban counterparts. With this therefore, it’s pertinent to note that Paediatric HIV is still a threat in rural Uganda, despite the measures that have been taken over the years to fight it, therefore, drastic interventions should be undertaken to halt the vicious cycle of HIV/AIDS