

Poor Virologic Control in Pregnant Adolescents with Perinatally Acquired HIV Infection Compared to Horizontally Infected Pregnant Women



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INTRODUCTION

- Due to advances in the management of HIV disease, girls with perinatally acquired (PA) HIV infection are entering child bearing age and an increasing number of them are getting pregnant.
- Adolescents and young women with perinatally acquired HIV have a different natural history of disease and treatment than women with horizontally acquired (HA) infection.
- Perinatally infected pregnant women represent a special group of patients with complex problems including but not limited to:
 - lifelong HIV infection
 - adherence issues
 - multi drug resistant HIV
 - chronic and often severe immunosuppression
 - psychosocial problems: adolescent and family
 - adolescent behavioral patterns

OBJECTIVE

To describe the clinical, virologic and immunologic characteristics before, during and after pregnancy in a cohort of women with PA HIV disease and compare them to a cohort of women with HA HIV infection

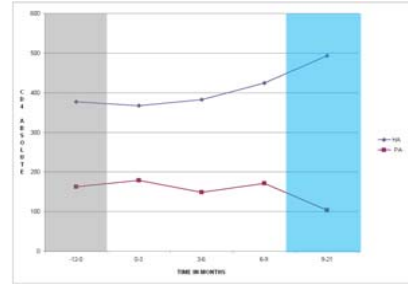
METHODS

A retrospective chart review of:

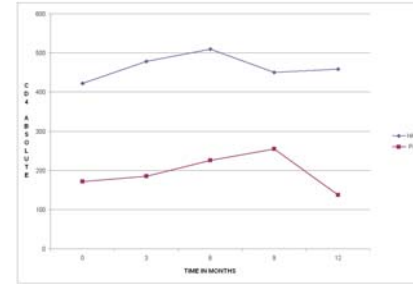
- 9 PA HIV infected women with 12 pregnancies (all the women were followed in our clinic between January 2000 and December 2007)
 - 3 women were pregnant twice
- 27 HA HIV infected women with 33 pregnancies (consecutive pregnant women followed at Jacobi Medical Center from January 2001 through December 2007)
 - 6 women were pregnant twice
- Log₁₀ HIV RNA and CD4+ T lymphocyte absolute counts were graphed as the average of all results available
 - within 6 - 12 months before pregnancy
 - during each trimester
 - one year postpartum
- Newborn data include the gestational age, mode of delivery, birth weight and perinatal history
- The perinatally infected women were closely monitored by an integrated multidisciplinary care team.

RESULTS

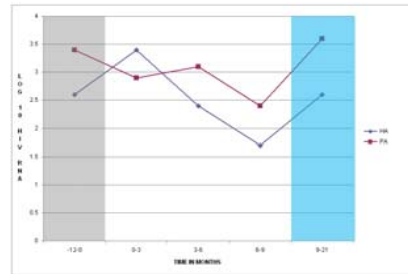
CD4+ absolute values before, during and after pregnancy



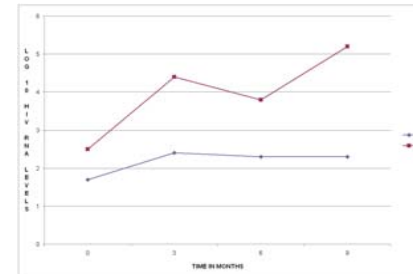
CD4+ absolute values one year post - partum



Log₁₀ HIV RNA before, during and after pregnancy



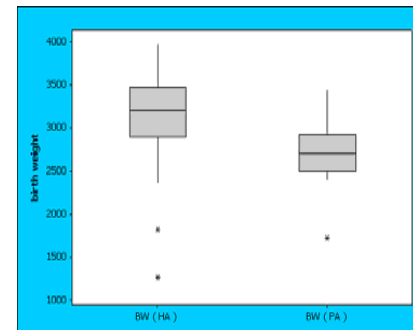
Log₁₀ HIV RNA one year post - partum



Patient characteristics

	Horizontally Acquired (HA)	Perinatally Acquired (PA)
RACE		
Hispanics	3	5 (67%)
Black/Americans	24 (88%)	5
HAIR		
W/HT	31	10
B/HT	13	1
HT	3	10
HIV RNA levels in copies/mL		
<400	20 (68%)	5 (38%)
400-1000	1	0
1000-10,000	2	2
>10,000	1	4 (31%)
BIRTH WEIGHTS in grams		
1500-2500	0	1
2500-3500	3	3
3500-5000	4	5 (38%)
>5000	20 (68%)	2
GESTATIONAL AGE in weeks		
36-40	21 (68%)	1
37-39	5 (15%)	3 (23%)
<37	1	1
MODE OF DELIVERY		
Vaginal	13 (40%)	10 (77%)
Cesarean	20 (60%)	3 (23%)

Comparison of birth weight



> The mean ages at delivery were 30 years in the HA and 20 years in the PA cohorts

> There were no vertical transmissions in either group. Three infants born to mothers in the PA group received a three drug prophylactic regimen (their mothers had high VLs and MDR HIV). One of these children contracted HBV perinatally.

> Birth weights of the newborns in the PA cohort were lower than in the HA cohort.

> Only 5 women (40%) from the PA cohort achieved viral suppression during the third trimester compared to 85% of women in the HA cohort.

> During the first month postpartum, both groups experienced rebound viremia. However, the HA group returned to baseline VL within a month while the PA group remained persistently viremic.

> CD4+ absolute counts were significantly and consistently lower in the PA cohort.

> As shown in the graphs, the VL and CD4+ differences between the groups became more pronounced in the post - partum period.

> In addition to the 12 pregnancies described in the PA group, there were 10 pregnancies in our overall PA population that ended in elective termination, and one miscarriage.

CONCLUSIONS

> Despite transient improvement in virologic and immunologic parameters during pregnancy, health outcomes of perinatally infected women are worse when compared to horizontally infected women.

> These findings may reflect a return to the maladaptive behaviors and unstable environments that pervaded the lives of these PA infected young women before they became pregnant. The presence of a demanding newborn can exacerbate these conditions and may lead to poorer virologic control and further post - partum CD4+ decline. In addition, these factors may interfere with maternal - infant bonding.

> Perinatally infected women with complex HIV disease pose significant challenges in the prevention of mother to child transmission.

> In caring for this unique population our efforts should focus on optimizing maternal physical and mental health, particularly in the post - partum period. Future multicenter collaborations will be necessary to achieve these goals.