

# Unmet 90-90-90 targets among adolescent girls and young women in Malawi

Payne, D<sup>1</sup>, West, C<sup>1</sup>, Kalua, T<sup>2</sup>, Low, A<sup>3</sup>, Chung C<sup>4</sup>, Auld A<sup>1</sup>, Ogollah FM<sup>4</sup>, Tsoka M<sup>5</sup>, Brown K<sup>6</sup>, Burnett J<sup>6</sup>, Kim E<sup>1</sup>, Cates M<sup>6</sup>, Birhanu S<sup>6</sup>, Jonnalagadda S<sup>6</sup> and the MPHIA Study Team

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Malawi; 2. Malawi Ministry of Health; 3. ICAP at Columbia University; 4. ICAP at Columbia University, Malawi; 5. Centre for Social Research, University of Malawi; 6. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta

## BACKGROUND

- In 2015, adolescent girls and young women (AGYW), aged 15-24 years, in Sub-Saharan Africa, accounted for 25% of new HIV infections among adults despite being 17% of the adult population (UNAIDS).
- Nationally representative data on HIV for AGYW in Malawi are limited in scope.
- This analysis describes the burden of HIV among AGYW in Malawi and their progress towards achieving the UNAIDS 90-90-90 targets.

## METHODS

- The Malawi Population-based HIV Impact Assessment (MPHIA) was conducted from November 2015 to August 2016.
- Participants answered questionnaires and provided blood for home-based HIV testing (Genieus-confirmed HIV positive status).
- Uptake of antiretroviral medication (ART) was self-reported.
- Viral load suppression was defined as HIV RNA < 1000 copies/ml.
- Weighted point estimates and survey-adjusted 95% confidence intervals (CIs) were calculated using the Jackknife replication method
- Descriptive analyses restricted to 15-24 year old females.
- Number of AGYW living with HIV was estimated using Malawi National Statistics Office (NSO) population projection for 2016 (Census 2008).

## RESULTS

- Of 4,594 eligible women, 3,580 (86.2%) responded to the questionnaire and were tested for HIV.

### HIV Prevalence

- Among AGYW, HIV prevalence was 3.4% (95% CI: 2.7-4.2).
  - 2.0% (95% CI: 1.2-2.8) in 15-19 year olds
  - 5.2% (95% CI: 4.0-6.3) in 20-24 year olds
- HIV Prevalence was significantly higher in urban areas 5.8% (95% CI: 4.1-7.6) than in rural areas 2.8% (95% CI: 1.7-3.9).
- Among AGYW who had ever had sex, HIV Prevalence was
  - 9.2% (95% CI: 5.6-12.8) among those who had sex before age 15 and,
  - 9.5% (95% CI: 5.0-14.1) among those with two or more sexual partners in the last 12 months.

### HIV Testing and 90-90-90

- Among the estimated 58,037 HIV-infected AGYW:
  - 55.3% (95% CI: 47.3-63.3) were aware of their HIV positive status
  - 84.8% (95% CI: 76.3-93.4) of those aware of their status were on ART
  - 79.6% (95% CI: 68.1 - 91.1) of those on ART were virally suppressed
- Overall viral load suppression among all HIV positive AGYW was 49.7% (95% CI: 40.6-58.7%).

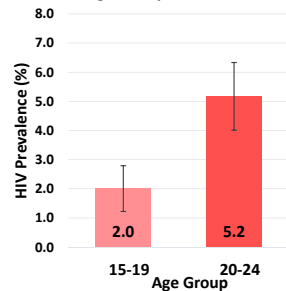
## CONCLUSION

- These results indicate a gap among AGYW in awareness of their HIV positive status, receiving ART and achieving viral suppression compared to the UNAIDS 90-90-90 targets. Only 55% of HIV positive AGYW knew their status, and only about 50% of HIV positive AGYW are virally suppressed.
- Concerted efforts are needed to improve prevention, diagnosis, treatment initiation and adherence among AGYW.

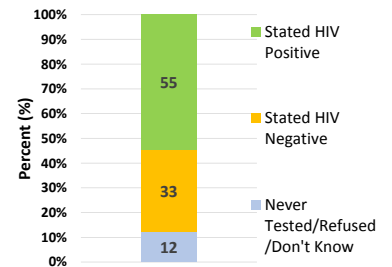
### Limitations

- Knowledge of HIV status, ART uptake, and sexual behaviors were self-reported.

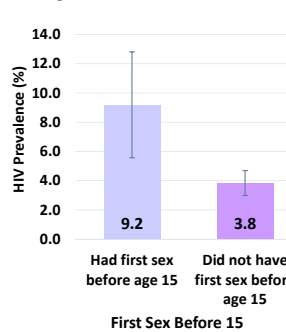
AGYW HIV Prevalence by Age Group, MPHIA 2015-16



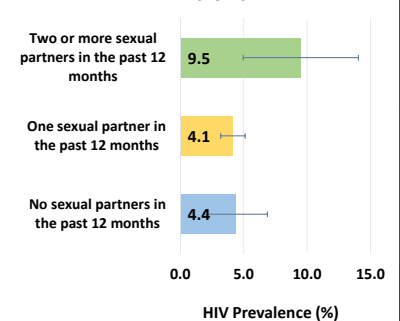
Self Reported HIV Status Among AGYW who tested positive in MPHIA, MPHIA 2015-16



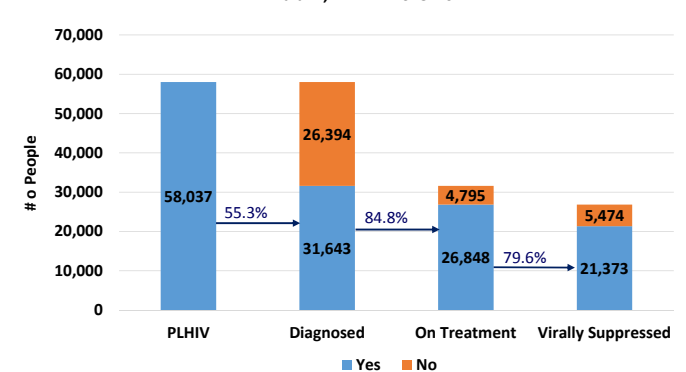
AGYW HIV Prevalence by Age at First Sex, MPHIA 2015-16



AGYW HIV Prevalence by Number of Sexual Partners in last 12 months, MPHIA 2015-16



Progress to 90-90-90 among HIV positive AGYW, 15-24 years old in Malawi, MPHIA 2015-16



## CONTACT INFO

Danielle Payne, MPH  
ASPPH/CDC Allan Rosenfield Global Health Fellow, CDC Malawi  
[DPayne1@cdc.gov](mailto:DPayne1@cdc.gov)

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Center for Global Health  
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