Factors associated with Viral Load Suppression and Satisfaction with ART services among People Living with HIV (PLHIV) in Differentiated ART Services Delivery Models in East Central Uganda.

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Project Design, Methods and Implementation Status

- Differentiated ART services delivery models (DSDM) for stable patients have been implemented in East-Central Uganda for more than 5 years now
  - However, little is known about the patient outcomes and satisfaction with ART services.

- A cross sectional study of 842 randomly sampled ART patients who had been in DSDM ART care for at-least 12 months prior to (June/July 2019) was conducted

- The objective was to determine the proportion of patients Satisfied in stable SMD ART services and are virally suppressed; and factors associated with these two indicators.
  - The DSDM were: CCLAD, CDDP or FTDR.

- The study was conducted in 1 specialized ART clinic (TASO Jinja), 1 Regional Referral Hospital (Jinja) and 6 health centers (5 HCIVs and 1 HCIII) in 6 districts

- TASO Institutional Review Board and Uganda National Council for Science and Technology approved the study
Key Findings:
Overall Viral Load Suppression was 83.7% and is Highest in CCLAD (90%) DSDM. Overall Patient satisfaction was 64.2% and Highest in CDDP (78.6%) DSDM.

Viral Load Suppression by DSDM:
Overall VL Suppression = 83.7%

Patient Satisfaction by DSDM:
Overall satisfaction = 64.2%

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Factors significantly associated with VL suppression and Client Satisfaction with ART services among PLHIV patients in DSDM

**VL suppression**
- Being in CCLAD relative to FTDR DSDM \((\text{AOR}=3.00 \ [1.24 \ – \ 7.09])\)
- Longer time in HIV care (10+ years) \((\text{AOR}=1.77 \ [1.13 \ – \ 2.77])\)
- Age 40 – 59 years relative to 18 – 29 years \((\text{AOR}=3.22 \ [1.17 \ – \ 8.83])\)

**Client Satisfaction**

*Facility level factors*
- The DSD Model: Being in CDDP \((\text{AOR} = 3.42[2.15-5.44])\) and FTDR \((\text{AOR}=2.92[1.34-6.31])\) relative to CCLAD
- Length of time on DSDM (3+ years) \((\text{AOR}=2.32 \ [1.12-4.87])\)
- Having a friend or relative on ART in same clinic \((\text{AOR} = 1.79 \ [1.22 \ – \ 2.61])\)

*Social factors*
- Being employed \((\text{AOR}= 4.22 \ [2.46-7.27])\)
- Not taking alcohol \((\text{AOR} = 2.3 \ [1.24-4.29])\)
- Lower transport costs (<5,000 UGX or USD 1.35) \((\text{AOR} = 2.39 \ [1.59-3.60])\)
Implications for National HIV Response

• To improve VL suppression rates among patients in DSDM, focus more interventions on patients
  ▪ Younger than 40 years
  ▪ Less than 10 years in HIV care
  ▪ On FTDR model especially in heavy clinics

• To improve client satisfaction among patients in DSDM, consider:
  o Paying attention to patients on CCLAD (good VL suppression but low satisfaction) and Fast drug refill model who had not only a poor VL suppression, but were also dissatisfied with the services
  o Address the following social factors:
    ▪ unemployment
    ▪ Alcohol abuse
    ▪ high transport costs
  o Address the following Facility level factors by paying attention to patients:
    ▪ Without friends / relatives in care
    ▪ On DSDM for a shorter time in care (<3 years)
    ▪ On FTDR and CCLAD DSMD client flow processes
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OK to share slides with attendees after Summit?

✓ Yes

• No