Renal abnormalities among HIV infected children at Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH)—Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Francis Fredrick1,2*, Joel M. Francis3, Paschal J. Ruggajo2,4 and Eden E. Maro4

Abstract

Background: Human Immunodeficiency Virus infection is a multisystem disease that contributes to significant morbidity. Renal involvement is reported to be common among patients with HIV. This study was carried out to determine renal involvement using simple bedside tests combined with ultrasonography examination.

Methods: We recruited 240 children from the HIV clinic at Muhimbili National Hospital. Data were collected using structured questionnaires and included demographic, clinical information, radiological tests; renal ultrasound and laboratory tests; serum creatinine, white blood cells, CD4+ counts and percent, urine for microalbuminuria and proteinuria.

Results: Microalbuminuria and proteinuria were present in 20.4% and 7.1% respectively. Significantly higher prevalence of microalbuminuria ($p < 0.01$) and proteinuria ($p < 0.01$) were noted with low CD4 percent (<25%). Lower mean CD4+ count were noted among children with microalbuminuria [937.4 ± 595.3 cells/μL vs 1164.7 ± 664.3 cell/μL, ($p < 0.05$)] and proteinuria [675.5 ± 352.3 cells/μL vs 1152 ± 662 cells/μL ($p < 0.001$)]. Fourteen (5.8%) HIV infected children had estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR of 30–59) consistent with severe renal impairment. Increased cortical echogenicity was noted in 69/153 (39.2%) of participants who had ultrasound examination.

Conclusion: Microalbuminuria, proteinuria and renal dysfunction were noted to be prevalent among HIV infected children indicating the need to consider routine screening of renal complications in these children.

Background

About 2.3 million children under the age of 15 years were estimated to be living with HIV globally 90% of which were in sub-Saharan Africa [1]. In Tanzania 150,000 children aged between 0 and 14 years were estimated to require antiretroviral therapy (ART) in 2011 [2]. Deaths in the first two years of life were attributed mainly to diarrheal diseases and respiratory infections before ART programs. [3] Improved survival with ART programs has paved way for long term HIV complications including renal complications [4]. ART drugs have been reported to contribute to renal complications [5].

Dondo et al. reported renal impairment in 34.6% and proteinuria in 16% among ART naïve HIV infected children in Zimbabwe [6]. In Nigeria proteinuria was reported in 20.8% of HIV infected children by Esezobor et al. [7] In a study of ten children with HIV nephropathy in Nigeria Anochie et al. described proteinuria in all participants and impaired renal function in 90% [8]. These findings highlight the contribution of renal complications in morbidity and possible mortality in HIV infected African children.

HIV related complications in HIV infected children include proteinuria, electrolyte disturbances, urinary tract infections, impaired renal function and end stage renal disease (ESRD) [9, 10]. Proteinuria is a marker of HIV nephropathy and has been correlated with decreased renal function and progression to ESRD. [11–13] HIV infected patients with advanced AIDS stage, severe malnutrition, low CD4 count and high viral load have been reported to be more likely to present with proteinuria [5, 6, 13, 14].
Despite proteinuria being the early marker of HIV nephropathy, microalbuminuria has been reported to predict its occurrence [15]. In a study which was conducted in Bethesda, USA in a cohort of HIV infected children 15% were noted to have microalbuminuria which correlated significantly with low CD4 count [16]. HIV infected patients with microalbuminuria have been reported to have kidney abnormalities, Han et al reported biopsy proven HIV nephropathy in majority (86%) of HIV infected patients who had microalbuminuria in South Africa [21].

HIV renal complications results from direct infection of renal epithelial and mesangial cells and deposition of immune complexes into renal tissues [17, 18]. Antiretroviral medications have also been reported to cause renal complications [19-21]. This study aimed to determine renal complications and associated factors among HIV infected children attending HIV clinic at Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH).

**Methods**

This was a hospital based cross-sectional study of HIV infected children attending HIV clinic at MNH. Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences Research Ethical Committee approved this study. We obtained informed written consents from parents/guardians and assent from participants aged ≥10 years prior to recruitment.

HIV infected children aged 1–14 years were consecutively recruited between January and March, 2011. We estimated a minimum sample size of 250 to determine proteinuria using Epi info version 6 statistical package assuming prevalence of microalbuminuria of 15% based on the findings of a study conducted in a cohort of children infected with HIV acquired vertically in Bethesda [16].

Standardized questionnaires were used to obtain information on socio-demographic information including age and sex of participants. Other information was obtained from case notes. Clean catch urine specimen from each participant was tested for proteinuria and microalbuminuria using URiSCAN® dipstick and Microalbumin 2-1 test strips (which determine albumin to creatinine ratio) respectively. Proteinuria was defined as positive dipstick test of ≥ +1 corresponding to ≥ 30 mg/dL, and microalbuminuria was defined as urinary albumin/creatinine ratio of ≥30 mg/g. Five milliliters of blood samples were drawn from each participant and tested for CD4 count and percentage, white blood cell count and serum creatinine using Architect Chemistry analyzer (Abbott®) and Cell-dyn 3500R analyzer respectively.

Each participant had weight measurement taken using a calibrated standard beam balance (SECA®) with the child putting on light clothing and no shoes, weight measures were approximated to the nearest 10 g. We calibrated the weighing scale to zero each day of recruitment. Length of children was measured with a length board, parents/guardians assisted in removing shoes and gently laying the child in supine position on the board, with their heads placed at 90° to the fixed headpiece, the sliding foot piece was brought into contact to the child’s heels. Height of participants was measured with the child standing at right angle in front of height board and sliding head piece was brought into contact with the head. Height/length was recorded to the nearest 10 mm.

Body Mass Index (BMI) was calculated for each participant and was used to determine nutrition status using BMI for age z-score according to World Health Organization (WHO) standard charts.

Estimated GFR (eGFR) was calculated using modified bedside Schwartz equation validated for children with and without CKD [22-25]. Recruited participants were given appointments for renal ultrasound examination scheduled one week after recruitment. Two certified radiologists reviewed the images and reached an agreement. Renal size was determined by comparison with age matched norms. Cortical echogenicity of the sonograms were graded relative to the liver or spleen. Cortical echogenicity was compared with liver and spleen and children who had higher echogenicity as compared to liver and spleen were considered to have abnormally increased echogenicity.

Stata version 12 was used for data analysis, proportions were calculated for microalbuminuria, proteinuria, t-test was used to compare continuous variables while association between categorical variables was determined using Chi-square and Fisher’s exact tests. Univariable logistic regression and multivariable logistic models were performed to determine predictors of microalbuminuria and proteinuria. Crude and adjusted odds ratio (OR) were reported, p value of < 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

**Results**

**Demographic and clinical characteristics of study participants**

Two hundred and forty children were recruited into this study as described in Table 1, out of which 133 (55.4%) were males. Participants were aged between 1 and 14 years with mean age of 7.6 ± 3.7 years. Majority of study participants 219 (91.2%) were using anti-retroviral drugs (ARV), of those using ARV 53% (129/219) were using stavudine, lamivudine and nevirapine combination regimen. Sixty four (27.6%) participants had immunosuppression (CD4 < 25%), 44 (20.4%) participants had microalbuminuria and 17 (7.1%) had proteinuria.

**Glomerular filtration rate and renal ultrasound findings**

Fourteen (5.8%) participants had eGFR between 30 and 59 ml/min/m2 which is consistent with renal impairment,
83 (34.6 %) had eGFR of ≥ 90 ml/min/m2 and 143 (59.6 %) participants had eGFR between 60 and 89 ml/min/m2. All participants were given appointments for renal ultrasound examination but only 153 (63.8 %) out of all participants attended for this evaluation. Sixty participants (39.2 %) out of 153 who were examined had normal kidney size and increased echogenicity.

Factors associated with microalbuminuria
Presence of haematuria and low CD4 percent were noted to influence occurrence of microalbuminuria. We observed that children with lower CD4 percent (<25 %) to more likely to have microalbuminuria [39.5 % vs. 14.8 % (p < 0.01)] as compared to those with CD4 percent ≥ 25 %, similarly higher proportion of participants with microalbuminuria had haematuria as compared to those without [50.0 % vs. 19.0 % (p = 0.02)] Table 2.

Children with haematuria had four folds increased likelihood of having microalbuminuria as compared to those without.

Factors associated with proteinuria
The proportion of children with proteinuria was higher among children aged ten years and above as compared to younger children (p = 0.01). Children with lower CD4 percent (< 25 %) were likely to present with proteinuria [15.6 % vs. 4.0 % (p = 0.01)] as compared to those with CD4 percent ≥ 25 %, Table 3. Participants with proteinuria had significantly lower mean CD4 count as compared to those without proteinuria [675.5 ± 352.3 cell/μL vs. 1152 ± 662 cells/μL (p < 0.01)]. Participants with CD4 < 25 % were four fold more likely to have proteinuria as compared to those with CD4 ≥ 25 %, Table 5. No association was noted between haematuria or severe renal impairment with microalbuminuria or proteinuria.

Discussion
We found microalbuminuria and proteinuria to be common among HIV infected children in our setting. Microalbuminuria was noted in 20.4 % while proteinuria was

---

Table 1 Demographic characteristics of study participants

| Variable                  | N (%)/N (±SD) |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| Age                       |               |
| < 5 years                 | 66 (27.5)     |
| 5 up to 10 years          | 94 (39.2)     |
| ≥ 10 years                | 80 (33.3)     |
| Sex                       |               |
| Male                      | 133 (55.4)    |
| Female                    | 107 (44.6)    |
| Using anti-retroviral therapy |          |
| Yes                       | 219 (91.2)    |
| No                        | 21 (8.8)      |
| Types of ARV              |               |
| d4T, 3TC, NVP             | 129 (53.8)    |
| d4T, 3TC, EFV             | 33 (13.8)     |
| AZT, 3TC, NVP             | 28 (11.7)     |
| AZT, 3TC, EFV             | 24 (10.0)     |
| ABC, ddl, Kaletra         | 5 (2.1)       |
| CD4 percent               |               |
| ≥ 25 %                    | 64 (27.6)     |
| < 25 %                    | 176 (73.3)    |
| Laboratory values         |               |
| Mean serum creatinine     | 51.3 ± 6.8 μmol/L |
| Mean blood urea nitrogen  | 2.8 ± 0.9 mmol/L  |
| Mean eGFR                 | 84 ± 14.7 ml/min/1.73 m² |
| Mean white blood cell count | 6.7 ± 2.8 x 10³ cells/μL |
| Mean CD4 percent          | 31.1 ± 10 %   |
| Mean haemoglobin level    | 10.9 ± 1.4 g/dL |

Table 2 Factors associated with microalbuminuria

| Variable                  | n   | Microalbuminuria present n (%) | P value |
|---------------------------|-----|--------------------------------|---------|
| Age (years)               |     |                                |         |
| 1 up to 5                 | 63  | 12 (18.2)                      |         |
| 5 up to 10                | 91  | 18 (19.1)                      |         |
| 10 and above              | 86  | 19 (23.8)                      | 0.669   |
| Sex                       |     |                                |         |
| Male                      | 133 | 30 (22.6)                      |         |
| Female                    | 107 | 19 (17.8)                      | 0.359   |
| Use of ART                |     |                                |         |
| Yes                       | 219 | 45 (20.5)                      |         |
| No                        | 21  | 4 (19.0)                       | 1.000   |
| CD4 percent               |     |                                |         |
| < 25 %                    | 64  | 23 (35.9)                      |         |
| ≥ 25 %                    | 176 | 26 (14.8)                      | 0.001   |
| Haematuria                |     |                                |         |
| Present                   | 10  | 5 (50.0)                       |         |
| Absent                    | 230 | 44 (19.1)                      | 0.018   |
| BMI z-score               |     |                                |         |
| Median-1SD                | 164 | 39 (23.8)                      |         |
| < -1 SD                   | 76  | 10 (13.2)                      | 0.061   |
| Renal echogenicitya       |     |                                |         |
| Normal                    | 93  | 14 (23.3)                      |         |
| Increased                 | 60  | 20 (21.5)                      | 0.843   |

Table 3 Factors associated with proteinuria

| Variable                  | n   | Proteinuria present n (%) | P value |
|---------------------------|-----|---------------------------|---------|
| Age (years)               |     |                          |         |
| 1 up to 5                 | 63  | 12 (18.2)                 |         |
| 5 up to 10                | 91  | 18 (19.1)                 |         |
| 10 and above              | 86  | 19 (23.8)                 | 0.669   |
| Sex                       |     |                          |         |
| Male                      | 133 | 30 (22.6)                 |         |
| Female                    | 107 | 19 (17.8)                 | 0.359   |
| Use of ART                |     |                          |         |
| Yes                       | 219 | 45 (20.5)                 |         |
| No                        | 21  | 4 (19.0)                  | 1.000   |
| CD4 percent               |     |                          |         |
| < 25 %                    | 64  | 23 (35.9)                 |         |
| ≥ 25 %                    | 176 | 26 (14.8)                 | 0.001   |
| Haematuria                |     |                          |         |
| Present                   | 10  | 5 (50.0)                  |         |
| Absent                    | 230 | 44 (19.1)                 | 0.018   |
| BMI z-score               |     |                          |         |
| Median-1SD                | 164 | 39 (23.8)                 |         |
| < -1 SD                   | 76  | 10 (13.2)                 | 0.061   |
| Renal echogenicitya       |     |                          |         |
| Normal                    | 93  | 14 (23.3)                 |         |
| Increased                 | 60  | 20 (21.5)                 | 0.843   |

n = 153

---

Factors associated with proteinuria
The proportion of children with proteinuria was higher among children aged ten years and above as compared to younger children (p = 0.01). Children with lower CD4 percent (< 25 %) were likely to present with proteinuria [15.6 % vs. 4.0 % (p < 0.01)] as compared to those with CD4 percent ≥ 25 %, Table 3. Participants with proteinuria had significantly lower mean CD4 count as compared to those without proteinuria [675.5 ± 352.3 cell/μL vs. 1152 ± 662 cells/μL (p < 0.01)]. Participants with CD4 < 25 % were four fold more likely to have proteinuria as compared to those with CD4 ≥ 25 %, Table 5. No association was noted between haematuria or severe renal impairment with microalbuminuria or proteinuria.

Discussion
We found microalbuminuria and proteinuria to be common among HIV infected children in our setting. Microalbuminuria was noted in 20.4 % while proteinuria was
present in 7.1 % of the recruited participants in this study. This findings were presumed to represent HIVAN.

Microalbuminuria has been reported as a common renal manifestation in HIV infected people, several studies have reported microalbuminuria in HIV infected children both in developed countries and sub-Saharan Africa. Dimock et al reported 15 % among HIV infected youth and children in Bethesda, USA [16]. Two other studies conducted among HIV infected Nigerian children reported prevalence of microalbuminuria of 11.1 % and 12 % [26, 27]. Microalbuminuria present earlier than proteinuria and has been reported to predict proteinuria in HIV infected patients [15].

A study conducted among HIV infected Zimbabwean children reported a prevalence of proteinuria to be 5 %, this is comparable to our findings of 7.1 % [6]. Esezobor et al. [7] reported a prevalence of proteinuria determined using urine protein to creatinine ratio, to be 20.5 % in a study conducted among HIV infected Nigerian children [7].

Older children had significantly higher prevalence of proteinuria in our study; with no difference being noted in occurrence of microalbuminuria with age. Therefore it may be advantageous to screen children with both tests in order to detect earlier renal complications. Microalbuminuria has been reported as a presentation of HIV associated nephropathy, in South Africa Han et al reported microalbuminuria in 24 % of patients who had biopsy proven HIV associated nephropathy [11].

Participants with immunosuppression (CD4 percent < 25 %) had higher prevalence of both microalbuminuria and proteinuria in this study. This is consistent with reports from other studies, Esezobor et al. in a study conducted in Nigerian children reported proteinuria in 11 (37.9 %) out of 29 children who had severe immunosuppression as compared to 7 (11.9 %) out of 59 with milder immunosuppression [4]. Chaparro et al reported similar association between proteinuria and low CD4 count and high viral load in a landmark study of proteinuria in HIV infected children conducted in Miami, USA [13].

Table 3 Factors associated with Proteinuria (n = 240)

| Variable          | n  | Proteinuria present n (%) | P value |
|-------------------|----|---------------------------|---------|
| Age (years)       |    |                           |         |
| 1 up to 5         | 63 | 4 (6.1)                   |         |
| 5 up to 10        | 91 | 2 (2.1)                   | 0.012   |
| 10 and above      | 86 | 11 (13.8)                 |         |
| Sex               |    |                           |         |
| Male              | 133| 9 (6.8)                   | 0.831   |
| Female            | 107| 8 (7.5)                   |         |
| Use of ART        |    |                           |         |
| Yes               | 119| 16 (7.3)                  |         |
| No                | 21 | 1 (4.8)                   | 1.000   |
| CD4 percent       |    |                           |         |
| < 25 %            | 64 | 10 (15.6)                 |         |
| ≥ 25 %            | 176| 7 (4.0)                   | 0.004   |
| Haematuria        |    |                           |         |
| Present           | 10 | 1 (10.0)                  |         |
| Absent            | 230| 16 (7.0)                  | 0.527b  |
| BMI Z-score       |    |                           |         |
| Median-1SD        | 164| 11 (6.7)                  |         |
| < -1 SD           | 76 | 6 (7.9)                   | 0.739   |
| Renal echogenicityb | |                            |         |
| Normal            | 93 | 6 (10.0)                  |         |
| Increased         | 60 | 9 (9.7)                   | 1.0     |

Table 4 Univariate and multivariate logistic regression for factors associated with microalbuminuria

| Variable          | Crude OR (95 % CI) | p-value | Adjusted OR (95 % CI) | p-value |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|
| Age               |                    |         |                       |         |
| < 5 years         | Ref                |         |                       | Ref     |
| 5–10 years        | 1.166 (0.508–2.673) | 0.717   |                       | 2.242 (2.396–11.124) | 0.016 |
| > 10 years        | 1.432 (0.630–3.254) | 0.391   | 3.020 (1.034–8.820)   | 0.043   |
| Sex               |                    |         |                       |         |
| Male              | Ref                |         |                       | Ref     |
| Female            | 0.741 (0.390–1.407) | 0.360   | 0.656 (0.309–1.393)   | 0.273   |
| CD4 percent       |                    |         |                       |         |
| ≥ 25 %            | Ref                |         |                       | Ref     |
| < 25 %            | 3.236 (1.675–6.254) | <0.0001 |                       | 5.134 (2.369–11.125) | <0.0001 |
| Haematuria        |                    |         |                       |         |
| Absent            | Ref                |         |                       | Ref     |
| Present           | 4.227 (1.172–15.240) | 0.028   |                       | 3.844 (0.975–15.153) | 0.054   |

Fischer’s exact test, b n = 153
Participants with microalbuminuria and proteinuria had significantly lower mean CD4 count which is in consistency with noted trend for CD4 percent. Similar findings have been reported among HIV infected patients with immunosuppression and advanced disease [6, 7, 13–15, 26, 27]. It is evident from our findings that it is important for clinician to make close follow up on the progress of patients receiving ART, to ensure immune competency is attained and maintained to prevent or delay occurrence of HIV associated renal complications. Fifteen participants (0.06 %) had haematuria which had no significant association with microalbuminuria or proteinuria; this finding may be attributed to urinary tract infection.

Severe renal impairment (defined as eGFR <60 ml/min/1.73 m²) was noted in 5.8 % of study participants, this is lower than 13.3 % reported by Esezobor et al. from a study conducted among HIV infected children in Nigeria [28]. In our study eGFR was estimated using serum creatinine which is different from cystatin C method utilized by Esezobor et al. Dondo et al in study conducted among HIV infected children in Zimbabwe reported renal dysfunction (defined by eGFR of 30 to ≤ 90 ml/min/1.73 m²) in 34.6 % of participants [6]. These findings justify initial renal function screening at recruitment and regular monitoring in HIV infected children.

Renal ultrasound examination of 153 participants revealed normal sized kidneys with increased cortical echogenicity in 39.2 % (60/153) which was attributed to HIVAN. Similar findings were reported by Steel-Duncan et al. in a study which was conducted in HIV infected Jamaican children which revealed normal sized kidneys with increased echogenicity [29]. Anochie et al reported grossly enlarged kidneys in 30 % and normal sized kidneys and increased echogenicity in 70 % of children with HIVAN in Nigeria [8]. No correlation was noted between occurrence of microalbuminuria or proteinuria and increased echogenicity in our study. It may be important to performing renal ultrasound examination at recruitment and regularly thereafter to complement urinalysis and renal function tests.

**Study limitations**

Microalbuminuria and proteinuria were tested only once in this study this could have underestimated the true magnitude of these two entities. The modified Schwartz formula utilized for estimating eGFR could have resulted in over/underestimation of GFR in the study population particularly for children below two years. Only 63.8 % of participants had renal ultrasound examination performed, this is because participants were given appointment for the examination on a different day from the visit on which they were recruited, this may be due to lack of reimbursement for transport which could not be provided in this study.

**Conclusions**

This study has documented existence of renal abnormalities in HIV infected children at MNH in the form of microalbuminuria, proteinuria and renal dysfunction. Immunosuppression was positively linked to occurrence of both microalbuminuria and proteinuria indicating the importance of attaining immune-competency among HIV infected children who are ART naïve and those on ART. Findings of this study may justify the role of screening HIV infected children for renal complications before starting ART and annually thereafter. This will facilitate earlier detection of affected children and making proper follow up including seeking care from kidney care specialists.

**Abbreviations**

AIDS: acquired immunodeficiency syndrome; ART: anti-retroviral therapy; BMI: body mass index; CD: cluster of differentiation; CKD: chronic kidney disease; eGFR: estimated glomerular filtration rate; ESRD: end stage renal disease; HIV: human immunodeficiency virus; HIVAN: human immunodeficiency virus associated nephropathy; MNH: Muhimbili National Hospital; MUHAS: Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences; NIMR: National Institute of Medical Research; OR: odds ratio; USA: United States of America; WHO: World Health Organization.

| Table 5 Univariate and multivariate logistic regression for factors associated with proteinuria |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Variable                         | Crude OR (95 % CI) | p-value | Adjusted OR (95 % CI) | p-value |
| Age                              |                 |       |                    |        |
| < 5 years                        | Ref             |       | Ref                |        |
| 5–10 years                       | 0.331 (0.059–1.868) | 0.211 | 0.539 (0.081–3.593) | 0.523 |
| > 10 years                       | 2.163 (0.655–7.140) | 0.205 | 3.538 (0.728–17.190) | 0.117 |
| CD4 percent                      |                 |       |                    |        |
| < 25 %                           | Ref             |       | Ref                |        |
| ≥ 25 %                           | 4.471 (1.623–12.316) | <0.004 | 4.416 (1.409–13.845) | 0.011 |
| Haematuria                       |                 |       |                    |        |
| Present                          | Ref             |       | Ref                |        |
| Absent                           | 1.486 (0.177–12.474) | 0.715 | 0.978 (0.104–9.175) | 0.984 |

Fredrick et al. BMC Nephrology (2016) 17:30 Page 5 of 6
Competing interests
The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

Authors’ contributions
FF: principal investigator, study design, data collection, data analysis and manuscript preparation. EEM and PJR participated in study design and data collection. JMF: data analysis and participated in manuscript preparation. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

Acknowledgements
We are grateful to contribution and guidance provided by the late Prof. Bjarne Magnus Iversen in study design and preliminary report writing. We acknowledge nurses in paediatric HIV clinic and Mrs Milalasi, laboratory technicians at MNH who assisted in conducting this study. Special thanks to MNH radiologists, Dr Joel Bwemero and Dr Ramadhani Kabala, and sonographer-Mr Maulid Kikondo for performing ultrasound examinations in this study. This study was funded by Norwegian Master’s program (NOMA program) and Ministry of Health and Social Welfare of Tanzania.

Author details
1Department of Paediatrics and Child Health, School of Medicine, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), P. O. Box 65001, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. 2Renal Unit, Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH), Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. 3National Institute of Medical Research (NIMR), Mwanza-Centre, Mwanza, Tanzania. 4Department of Internal Medicine, School of Medicine, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Received: 29 January 2015 Accepted: 16 March 2016

References
1. UNAIDS: 2012 report on the global AIDS epidemic. 2012.www.unaids.org/en/media/unaids/contentassets/documents/epidemiology/2012/20121210.UNAIDS_Global_Report_2012_en.pdf
2. UNAIDS. Report on the global AIDS epidemic. 2012.
3. Benson C, Kaplan J, Masur H. Treating opportunistic infections among HIV-infected adults and adolescents: recommendations from CDC, the National Institutes of Health, and the HIV Medicine Association/Infectious Diseases Society of America. Clin Infect Dis. 2005;40 Suppl 1:151–84.
4. Ray PE, Xu L, Rakusan T, Liu XH. A 20 year history of childhood HIV-associated nephropathy. Pediatr Nephrol. 2004;19:1075–92.
5. Bhamra R, Purswani MU, Kala U. Kidney disease in children and adolescents with perinatal HIV-1 infection. J Int AIDS Soc. 2013;16:18596.
6. Dondoo V, Majumder HA, Nathoo KJ, Chirehwa M, Muftahdza Z. Renal abnormalities among HIV infected, antiretroviral naive children, Harare, Zimbabwe: a cross-sectional study. BMC Pediatr. 2013;13:75.
7. Esezobor CI, Iroha E, Onifade E, Akinsulie AO, Temiye EO, Ezeaka C. Prevalence of proteinuria among HIV-infected children attending a tertiary hospital in Lagos, Nigeria. J Trop Pediatr. 2010;56(3):187–90.
8. Anochie IC, Eke FU, Okpere AN. Human immunodeficiency virus-associated nephropathy (HIVAN) in Nigerian children. Pediatr Nephrol. 2008;23:117–22.
9. McCulloch MI, Ray PE. Kidney disease in HIV-positive children. Semin Nephrol. 2008;28(6):585–94.
10. Ramsuran D, Bhamra R, Ramdial PK. The spectrum of HIV-related nephropathy in children. Pediatr Nephrol. 2012;27(5):621–7.
11. Han TM, Nacker S, Ramdial PK, Assounga AG. A cross-sectional study of HIV-seropositive patients with varying degrees of proteinuria in South Africa. Kidney Int. 2006;69:2243–50.
12. Kimmel PL, Barisoni L, Kopp JB. Pathogenesis and treatment of HIV-associated renal diseases: lessons from clinical and animal studies, molecular pathologic correlations, and genetic investigations. Ann Intern Med. 2003;139:214–26.
13. Chaparro AL, Mitchell CD, Atibol CI, Wilkinson JD, Balfarrag-GO, Lopez E, Zilleruelo G. Proteinuria in Children Infected with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus. J Pediatr. 2008;152:844–9.
14. Szczez A, Gange SJ, Van der Horst C, Bartlett JA, Young M, Cohen MH, Anastos K, Klassen PS, Svetkey LP. Predictors of proteinuria and renal failure among women with HIV infection. Kidney Int. 2002;61:195–202.
15. Szczez A, Menezes P, Byrd Quinlan E, van der Horst C, Bartlett JA, Svetkey LP. Microalbuminuria predicts overt proteinuria among patients with HIV infection. HIV Med. 2010;11(7):419–26.
16. Dimock D, Thomas V, Cushing A, Purdy JH, Worrell C, Kopp JB, Hazra T, Hadigan C. Longitudinal assessment of metabolic abnormalities in adolescents and young adults with HIV-infection acquired perinatally or in early childhood. Metabolism. 2011;60(6):874–80.
17. Ray PE. Taking a hard look at the pathogenesis of childhood HIV-associated nephropathy. Pediatr Nephrol. 2009;24(1):1209–19.
18. Bruggelman LA, Nelson PJ. Controversies in the pathogenesis of HIV-associated renal diseases. Nat Rev Nephrol. 2009;5:574–81.
19. Rolein J, Schmid H, Fischereder M, Draenert R, Goebel FD. HIV-associated renal diseases and highly active antiretroviral therapy-induced nephropathy. Clin Infect Dis. 2006;42:1488–95.
20. Jao J, Wyatt CM. Antiretroviral medications: adverse effects on the kidney. Adv Chronic Kidney Dis. 2010;17(1):72–82.
21. Daugas E, Rouger JP, Hill G. HAART-related nephropathies in HIV infected patients. Kidney Int. 2005;67:399–403.
22. Schwartz GI, Furth SL. Glomerular filtration rate measurement and estimation in chronic kidney disease. Pediatr Nephrol. 2007;22:1839–48.
23. Schwartz GI, Haycock GB, Edelmann CM, Spitzer A. A simple estimate of glomerular filtration rate in children derived from body length and plasma creatinine. Pediatrics. 1976;85:259–63.
24. Schwartz GI, Muñoz A, Schneider MF, Kaskel F, Warady BA, Furth SL. New equations to estimate GFR in children with CKD. J Am Soc Nephrol. 2009;20:629–37.
25. Staples A, Leblond R, Watkins S, Wong C, Brandt J. Validation of the revised Schwartz estimating equation in a predominantly non-CKD population. Pediatr Nephrol. 2010;25:2521–6.
26. Eke FU, Anochie IC, Okpere AN, Eneh AU, Ugwu RO, Ejemelie AA, Ugboru HU. Microalbuminurias in children with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection in Port Harcourt, Nigeria. Niger J Med. 2010;19(3):298–301.
27. Iduoryekemen NJ, Sadoh WE, Sadoh AE. Prevalence of renal disease in Nigerian children infected with the human immunodeficiency virus and on highly active anti-retroviral therapy. Saudi J Kidney Dis Transpl. 2013;24(1):172–7.
28. Esezobor CI, Iroha E, Oladipo O, Onifade E, Akinsulie AO, Temiye EO, Ezeaka C. Kidney function of HIV-infected children in Lagos, Nigeria: using Filler’s serum cystatin C-based formula. J Int AIDS Soc. 2010;13:171.
29. Steel-Duncan J, Miller M, Pierre RB, Dunkley-Thompson J, Palmer P, Evans-Gilbert T, Rodriguez B, Christie CDC. Renal Manifestations in HIV-infected Jamaican Children. West Indian Med J. 2008;57(3):246.