

Experiences of Mothers Using PMTCT Program to Prevent HIV Transmission in Rwanda

Global Health Research Exchange Group in Newfoundland

Presenter: Joyce KAMANZI

Virtual Research and Knowledge Exchange on Global Health
November 21, 2023 | 12:30PM to 2:00PM Newfoundland
Island Time

Outline

Background

Demographic data

Emerging findings

Recommendations

Concluding thoughts

Acknowledgement

- Almighty God
- To my lovely husband, sons and daughter, my mother-in-Law
- Dr. Solina Richter, Supervisor
- Supervisory Committee
- Funds
- Research Participants



Where the Journey Begins



Background

Approximately 38 million are living with HIV, and 1.8 million were newly infected with HIV (UNAIDS, 2021)

Globally, 180, 000 children under 15 years old acquired HIV every day and more than 90% of them were due to MTCT of HIV (Henry J Kaiser Family Foundation, 2021)

90% of MTCT of HIV occurred in sub-Saharan Africa (UNAIDS, 2021)

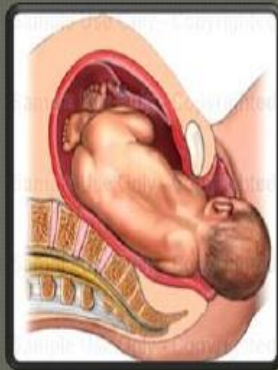
In Rwanda, 5300 people of all ages were newly infected in 2021 (UNAIDS, 2021; WHO, 2020).

At University Teaching Hospital of Butare in the PMTCT program, the number of HIV+ children was 158 in 2018, the time I started my PhD (CHUB Report, 2018)

MTCT of HIV

Mother to child transmission

- Mothers with HIV can transmit virus to their infants during pregnancy, childbirth and breast feeding.



PMTCT Strategic Axes



Primary prevention - pre-nuptial approach

Prong 1

Prevention of unintended pregnancy among infected women

Prong 2

Prevention of HIV transmission from infected mothers to their infants

Prong 3

Provision of treatment, care and support to HIV+ women, infants and their families

Prong 4

Purpose and objectives

- Explore the experiences of mothers using the PMTCT Program to prevent HIV transmission in Rwanda.

Identify factors that influence and challenge the uptake of the PMTCT program

Explore the role of health services in supporting women in the PMTCT program

Critically examine the experiences of mothers during the prenatal, perinatal, and postnatal period to prevent HIV transmission

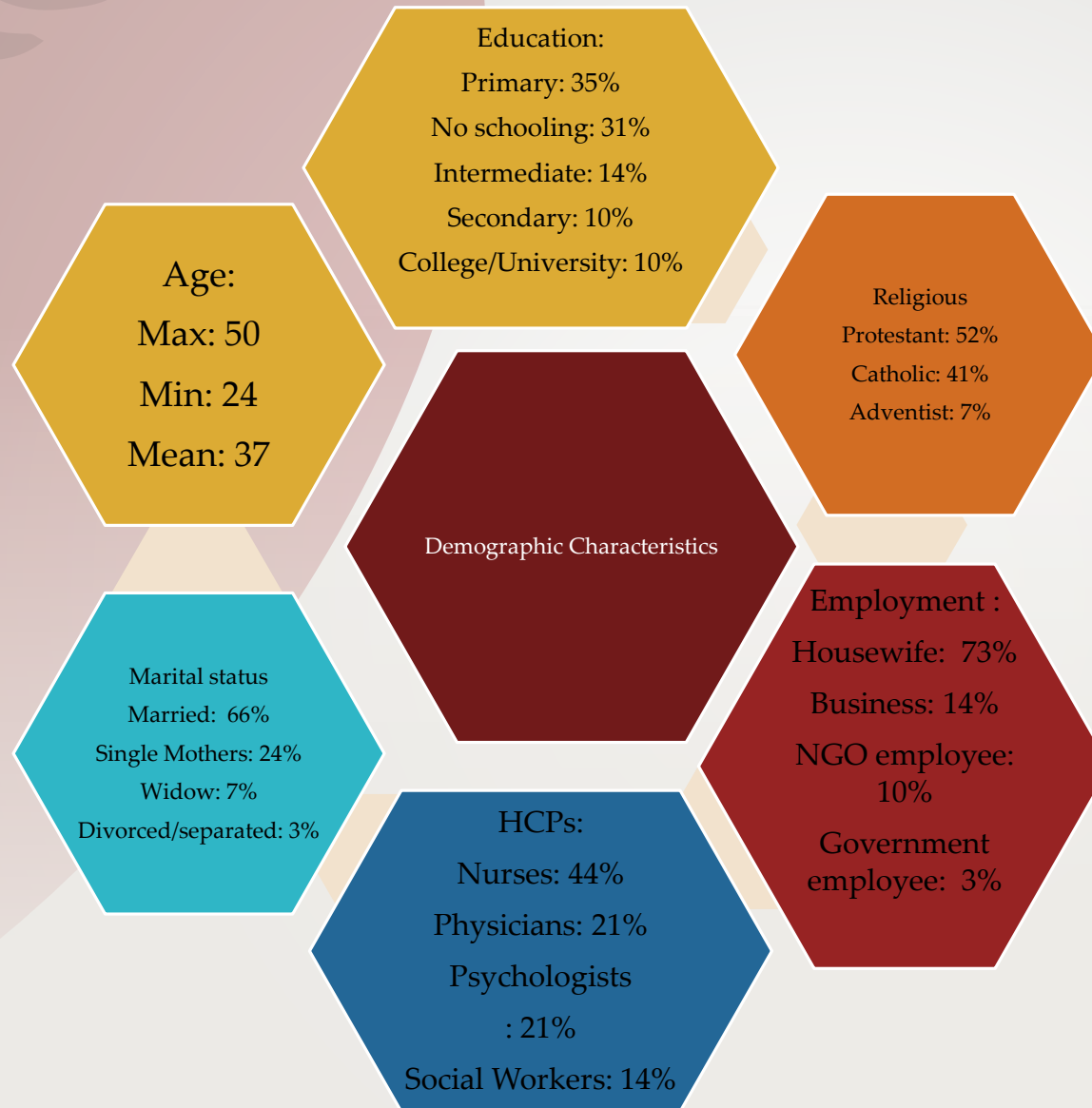
Describe how the PMTCT program can be implemented effectively.

Methods

- Research design
- Population
- Sampling method
- Data collection
- Data analysis
- University of Alberta Ethics Committee has approved this project
- The permission to access and collect the data within BUTH was received from the BUTH Ethics Committee.

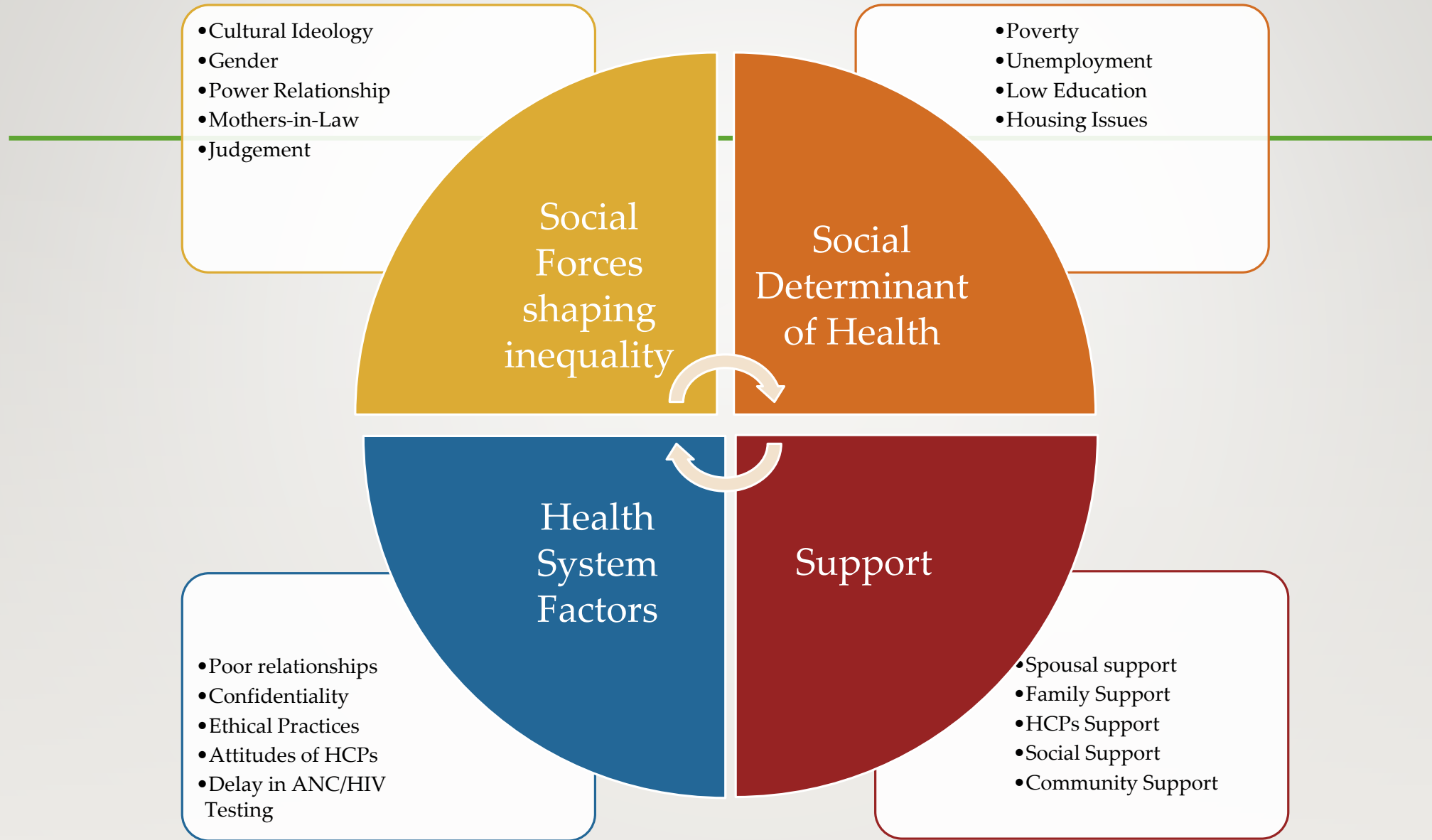
The total number of participants: 55

Demographic characteristics



	Number (N=20)	Percentage (100%)
Participants		
HIV+ Women	29	75
HCPs	14	15
Policymakers	8	5
PMTCT Leaders	4	5

Emerging Themes



Discussion

- The discussion chapter was very challenging to write because most of the concepts are interconnected
- HIV+ women's adherence to the PMTCT program is a complex phenomenon
- Understanding the intersectionality between health-related multilevel factors and other forms of social marginalization provided a richer and more comprehensive picture of the experiences of HIV+ women
- The larger conceptual pieces in my findings are patriarchy, gender roles and norms, cultural ideology, power relationships, and systems of domination and oppression

Recommendations

Education

- Men and family involvement,
- HIV campaign
- Couple counseling
- Community education

Practice

- Consistent messages
- Interdisciplinary collaboration
- Maintaining open communication
- Strengthening and updating the HCPs trainings

Ministry of Health

- Full integration of the PMTCT into the health system
- Social and cultural consideration

Research

- Test and evaluate how social forces work to shape health behaviour
- Roles of social determinants of health in producing health inequalities
- Understand inequality in health and the way in which we investigate them



Conclusion



- ❖ Closing statement
- ❖ Reflecting back: Lessons Learned
- ❖ Calling everyone protect babies against MTCT of HIV

Contact information:

Joyce Kamanzi

kamanzijoyce2@gmail.com





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18 Presentations

- Khan, A., Vazquez, L.M., **Kamanzi, J.**, Francis Xavier, J.M.V., Nunes, F., Davidson, D., Foster, L., & Khanlou, N. (2023). Social Support for Racialized Families of Youth with Developmental Disabilities: Health, Education, Employment, and Other Service Sectors. Accepted May 23, 2023 in The Department of Psychiatry Research day (DPRD) 2023, at Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel, 123 Queen St W, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. June 15, 2023. In person oral presentation.
- Jarvis, K., Richter, S., & **Kamanzi, J.** (2022). Factors Influencing Vulnerable and Marginalized Women's Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health in Canada: Every Woman Counts. Accepted January 06, 2023, in The International Council of Nurses (ICN) Congress 2023 in Montreal, Canada. July 01-05, 2023. Oral presentation
- **Kamanzi, J.**, & Richter, S. (2022). Unplanned Pregnancies Among HIV Positive Women and Its Implications for Mother-to-Child Transmission (MTCT) of HIV in Rwanda. Accepted January 06, 2023, in The International Council of Nurses (ICN) Congress 2023 in Montreal, Canada. July 01-05, 2023. Oral presentation.
- **Kamanzi, J.**, & Richter, S. (2021). Self-Efficacy in the Context of PMTCT of HIV: A Concept Clarification. Accepted January 06, 2023, in The International Council of Nurses (ICN) Congress 2023 in Montreal, Canada. July 01-05, 2023. Oral presentation.
- **Kamanzi, J.**, & Richter, S. (2021). HIV Positive Refugee Women and their Children Migratory Experiences Accessing Health Care Services in Canada. Accepted January 06, 2023 in the International Council of Nurses (ICN) Congress 2023, in Montreal, Canada. July 01-05, 2023. Oral presentation.
- Khanlou, N., Garcia, L.M.V., Khan, A., Vimalakanthan, K., **Kamanzi, J.**, Washington, D., & Alamdar, N.P.E. (2022). A scoping review of the literature on social support needs of racialized families of youth with developmental disabilities. Accepted November 18, 2022, to Canadian Health and Wellbeing in Developmental Disabilities Conference. February 08-09, 2023, for poster presentation.

- **Kamanzi, J.,** Richter, S. M., Paul, P., & Jarvis, K. (2021). Social determinants of health that influences the uptake of the PMTCT program. 20th Annual Thinking Qualitatively Virtual Conference. July 05-09, 2021. Virtual poster combined with a three-minute presentation. presentation title 20XX
- **Kamanzi, J.,** Richter, S. M., Paul, P., & Jarvis, K. (2021). Patriarchal power as social force shaping inequality. 20th Annual Thinking Qualitatively Virtual Conference. July 05-09, 2021. Virtual poster combined with a three-minute presentation.
- **Kamanzi, J.,** & Richter, S. (2021). Experiences of mothers using the Prevention Mother-to Child Transmission (PMTCT) program to prevent Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) transmission in Rwanda. CASN 2021 Virtual Nursing Education Conference. May 03-04, 2021. Round-table Moderated Presentation (PhDs of Thesis in progress).
- **Kamanzi, J.,** & Richter, S. (2021). Explore the intersecting factors influencing the delivery of the PMTCT program in Rwanda. Consortium of Universities for Global Health's 12th Annual conference (CUGH 2021). March 12-14th 2021, Hilton Americas, Houston, Texas, USA. Virtual, Poster combined with 5 minutes presentation.
- Hilaria, C., **Kamanzi, J.,** Libon, J., Pandit, A., Richter, S., Ng, I., & Gilchrist, L. (2021). How can peer support be used in community-based youth suicide prevention? Scoping review. Frayme Learning Institute 2021 – Defying Convention: Spotlighting alternative approaches to YMHSU services, Canada February 24-26, 2021. Virtual Symposium.
- **Kamanzi, J.,** & Richter, S. (2019). Experience of mothers using Prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) program in sub-Saharan African-A scoping Review. CANAC's 27th Annual Conference, Tradition, and Innovation: Informing Today's HIV Care, London, Ontario, Canada (Oral presentation).
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