

ISOSS at CHIVA 2021

The ISOSS team hosted their first in person stand since the pandemic at this year's hybrid CHIVA conference in London in September and enjoyed meeting many of our paediatric respondents and collaborators.

Update on vertical HIV transmissions

[Helen presented an update](#) on HIV vertical transmissions occurring among children born in the UK since 2006 (for full details, please see [ISOSS' annual report](#)).

Overall, **35 transmissions were reported in 2014-19** and discussed by the **IDPS Clinical Expert Review Panels**. In **over half of cases**, there were **adverse social circumstances** reported at the time of the pregnancy.

Two-thirds of children were born to mothers diagnosed after delivery (24/35).

- **16/24** women **screened negative in pregnancy**, seroconverting at some point during pregnancy or breastfeeding
- **5/24** women **had declined HIV screening** in pregnancy (all pre-2010)

The other 11 vertical transmissions were in women diagnosed before or during pregnancy. **5** of these were **postnatal transmissions** likely due to **non-disclosed breastfeeding**.

Please continue to report any new HIV vertical transmissions to ISOSS.



Corinne Hill, Helen Peters, Kate Francis



Children's HIV and AIDS Reporting System (CHARS) launch

From January 2022, **long-term paediatric HIV follow-up** will be carried out by the CHARS team and will run alongside ISOSS. This will replace the long-running work done by CHIPS. CHARS is **commissioned by UK Health Security Agency's (UKHSA) National Infection Service and NHS England & NHS Improvement** with Regulation 3 approval.

Data collection will be done through **quarterly reports via the secure online portal** – respondents can use existing ISOSS accounts to log and update case reports

- Timely data collection will support quality of care indicators and commissioning of NHS services
- The ISOSS/CHARS team look forward to working with our valued paediatric respondents and supporting long-term paediatric HIV surveillance



You can find out more about CHARS on our **newly launched website**: www.ucl.ac.uk/chars/.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the team at: chars@ucl.ac.uk.

Maternity reporting: how to avoid data queries

Hepatitis B

- ▶ Please ensure that **notification forms are submitted after key appointments and assessments have taken place**, i.e. with the screening team and with specialists. **All questions** we ask have been **requested specifically by the IDPS** and are designed to work in line with current pathways and guidance.

HIV

- ▶ **Treatment details** in pregnancy are required for **all women**. This includes treatment **at conception and during pregnancy**, including **any changes** in treatment (drug switches). Please ensure you have this information **before** submitting forms.

Syphilis

- ▶ **False positive or equivocal results** are **NOT required** as part of the ISOSS data collection. Please **do not include these cases** on the quarterly green card.

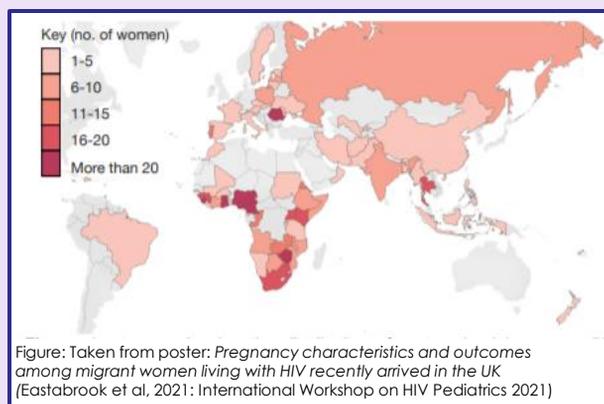


All data fields are important!

Spotlight on: 'Country of birth' and 'Date of arrival in the UK'

'Country of birth' and 'date of arrival in UK' are collected to help inform inequalities strategies; we use the data to understand changes in our population of pregnant women.

This information informs publications such as our [annual reports](#). See our recent conference presentation using this data on [maternal trends over time](#) and [outcomes of migrant women living with HIV recently arrived in UK](#) (Figure).



Paediatric reporting: reminders and updates

- ▶ A reminder that all **HIV and syphilis paediatric forms** are now generated on a regular basis by the ISOSS team and are **pre-populated using details from our maternity reports**.
- ▶ Have you seen the [BHIVA guidelines update \(following COVID interim statement\)](#)?
 - **Infant testing** (for infants exclusively formula-fed) should revert to PCR testing at 0, 6 and 12 weeks, with a final HIV antibody test at 18–22 months of age
 - **Breastfeeding** should be supported with monthly maternal & infant viral load follow-up for the duration of the breastfeeding period and for 2 months post-cessation of breastfeeding

Website updates

Come and visit our website: isoss@ucl.ac.uk!

You can “meet” the ISOSS team and find lots of information on maternity and paediatric reporting.

You can also view the publications and conference papers produced using the data you submit.



IDPS: from PHE to NHSE/I

From 1st October 2021, all 6 Antenatal and Newborn screening programme teams (including the IDPS) transferred from PHE to NHSE/I. The Programme's business and teams will remain the same.

Providers can continue to submit any queries relating to the programmes to the screening helpdesk at PHE.screeninghelpdesk@nhs.net.