

This procedure explains the process of linking infants with a positive DNA PCR result to ART care immediately. Malawi National HTC Guidelines for exposed infants recommend a DNA PCR test done at 6 weeks, followed by two confirmatory rapid tests at 12 and 24 months in order to determine the HIV status of the infant. The Positive DNA PCR Register is designed to be used for those exposed infants that received a positive DNA PCR result for their test at 6 weeks of age. By closely monitoring all positive DNA PCR results, CHWs are able to quickly return results and enroll infants into care. Additionally, the register can help identify gaps in the DNA PCR laboratory process.

[SECTION 1: USE OF THE POSITIVE DNA PCR REGISTER](#)

[SECTION 2: FILLING THE POSITIVE DNA PCR REGISTER](#)

[Appendix: Positive DNA PCR Register](#)

SECTION 1: USE OF THE POSITIVE DNA PCR REGISTER

1. Update the register with all DNA PCR results as soon as the results are received from the laboratory. Note: If there are delays in receiving results, the appropriate logistics coordinator should be notified.
2. Inform patients as soon as possible through either a phone call or home-based visit that their test results are available and that they should go to the health center to receive them. If the patient does not return to the health facility within the next few days, CHWs should continue home-based follow up and counselling.
3. When the patient comes to the health facility for results:
 - a. Counsel the mother/caregiver about the patient's status and next steps
 - b. Start the infant on ART
 - c. Update all remaining sections of the Positive DNA PCR Register

SECTION 2: FILLING THE POSITIVE DNA PCR REGISTER

Heading	Description	Response Options
EID #	Early infant diagnosis number. A unique ID assigned by the MOH to every DNA PCR test. Can be found in the EID Register.	
Tingathe #	Unique ID assigned by the Tingathe Program to all women and exposed infants in the PMTCT Program	
Enrolled in PMTCT before or after infant birth?	The enrollment status of the MIP/exposed infant in terms of the infant's birth	Before= the mother was enrolled in the PMTCT program before the infant's birth; After= the mother/exposed infant was enrolled in the PMTCT program after the infant's birth
Infant Name	Infant's name	Last name, First name
Mom Name	Infant's mother's name	Last name, First name
Infant Sex	Gender of the infant	MALE = male; FEM= female
Date of Birth	Date of birth of the infant	DD/MM/YY
Date PCR Taken	Date that the PCR was drawn	DD/MM/YY
Date PCR returned from lab	Date that the result from the DNA PCR test was received	DD/MM/YY
PCR result given to patient	Date that the result from the DNA PCR test was formally communicated to the mother/infant caregiver	DD/MM/YY
CHW assigned	The CHW assigned to following up the exposed infant and ensure s/he starts ART (should be the same CHW assigned to the patient for the PMTCT program)	Last name, First name
Infant MOH ART # and ART start date	MOH ART # is the unique ID assigned by the MOH to all patients who start ART. ART start date is the date the patient started ART	ART Start Date: DD/MM/YY
# of days from PCR result	Count the number of days from the date the DNA PCR result was received at the clinic and the date that the patient started ART	Example: result was received on 28/6/16 and the patient started ART on 5/07/16. The number of days between is: 7

Positive DNA PCR Register

rcvd to ART start		
Mom on ART	Is the mother of the infant taking ART	Y= yes she is taking ART; N= no she is not taking ART; NA= infant's mother is not available (e.g. died)
Mom MOH ART# and ART Start Date	MOH ART # is the unique ID assigned by the MOH to all patients who start ART. ART start date is the date the patient started ART	ART Start Date: DD/MM/YY
PSHD	If the child was diagnosed with PSHD	Y= yes the infant was diagnosed with PSHD; N= no the infant was not diagnosed with PSHD
Infant ART Outcome	The outcome of the infant.	
Infant Outcome Date	The date of the infant's outcome	
Mom ART Outcome	The outcome of the mother.	
Mom Outcome Date	The date of the mother's outcome	
Did infant receive NVP for PMTCT?	If the infant received NVP for PMTCT (i.e. did the infant take NVP for the first six weeks of life)	Y= yes the infant received 6 weeks (or less) of NVP for PMTCT; N= no the infant did not receive NVP for PMTCT
If infant ART not started within 2 weeks of PCR result, please explain.	Infants are at high risk of morbidity and mortality if they do not start ART immediately. It is important that CHWs strive to start all infants on ART as soon as possible. Explain any reason why this was not possible in the space provided	

APPENDIX: Positive DNA PCR Register

POSITIVE DNA PCR REGISTER

SITE: _____

EID # and Tingathe#		Enrolled in PMTCT before or after Infant Birth?	Infant and Mom Names (Surname, First name)	Infant Sex (circle one)	Date of Birth (dd/mm/yy)	Date PCR taken (dd/mm/yy)	PCR result given and date given to patient (dd/mm/yy)	CHW Assigned (Surname, First name)	Infant MOH ART # and ART start date (dd/mm/yy)	# days from PCR result rcvd to ART start	Mom on ART (circle one)
EID#	BEFORE	Infant (Surname, First Name)	MALE			Date result received from lab			ART#:		YES NO NA
Tingathe#		Mother (Surname, First Name)	F			Date PCR result given to patient:			ART start date:		
EID#	BEFORE	Infant (Surname, First Name)	MALE			Date result received from lab			ART#:		YES NO NA
Tingathe#		Mother (Surname, First Name)	F			Date PCR result given to patient:			ART start date:		
EID#	BEFORE	Infant (Surname, First Name)	MALE			Date result received from lab			ART#:		YES NO NA
Tingathe#		Mother (Surname, First Name)	F			Date PCR result given to patient:			ART start date:		
EID#	BEFORE	Infant (Surname, First Name)	MALE			Date result received from lab			ART#:		YES NO NA
Tingathe#		Mother (Surname, First Name)	F			Date PCR result given to patient:			ART start date:		
EID#	BEFORE	Infant (Surname, First Name)	MALE			Date result received from lab			ART#:		YES NO NA
Tingathe#		Mother (Surname, First Name)	F			Date PCR result given to patient:			ART start date:		
EID#	BEFORE	Infant (Surname, First Name)	MALE			Date result received from lab			ART#:		YES NO NA
Tingathe#		Mother (Surname, First Name)	F			Date PCR result given to patient:			ART start date:		
EID#	BEFORE	Infant (Surname, First Name)	MALE			Date result received from lab			ART#:		YES NO NA
Tingathe#		Mother (Surname, First Name)	F			Date PCR result given to patient:			ART start date:		
EID#	BEFORE	Infant (Surname, First Name)	MALE			Date result received from lab			ART#:		YES NO NA
Tingathe#		Mother (Surname, First Name)	F			Date PCR result given to patient:			ART start date:		
EID#	BEFORE	Infant (Surname, First Name)	MALE			Date result received from lab			ART#:		YES NO NA
Tingathe#		Mother (Surname, First Name)	F			Date PCR result given to patient:			ART start date:		
EID#	BEFORE	Infant (Surname, First Name)	MALE			Date result received from lab			ART#:		YES NO NA
Tingathe#		Mother (Surname, First Name)	F			Date PCR result given to patient:			ART start date:		
EID#	BEFORE	Infant (Surname, First Name)	MALE			Date result received from lab			ART#:		YES NO NA
Tingathe#		Mother (Surname, First Name)	F			Date PCR result given to patient:			ART start date:		

Mom MOH ART # and ART start date (dd/mm/yy)	PSHD (circle one)	Infant ART Outcome (tick only one)	Infant Outcome Date (dd/mm/yy)	Mom ART Outcome (tick only one)	Mom Outcome Date (dd/mm/yy)	Did infant receive NVP for PMTCT? (circle one)	If infant ART not started within 2 weeks of PCR result, please explain:
ART#: _____ ART start date: _____	YES NO	<input type="checkbox"/> AliveNoART <input type="checkbox"/> Alive on ART <input type="checkbox"/> T/O <input type="checkbox"/> STOP <input type="checkbox"/> DEF <input type="checkbox"/> DIED		<input type="checkbox"/> AliveNoART <input type="checkbox"/> Alive on ART <input type="checkbox"/> T/O <input type="checkbox"/> STOP <input type="checkbox"/> DEF <input type="checkbox"/> DIED		YES NO	
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