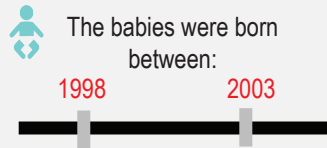


BIRTH WEIGHT AND EARLY DELIVERY IN MOTHERS LIVING WITH HIV

We wanted to know if babies born to women born with HIV are at risk for being born too early or too small. We compared babies born to women born with HIV with babies born to women who got HIV later in life.

WHO PARTICIPATED



Mothers were divided into three age groups:
13-17 years old
18-22 years old
23-30 years old

We studied 2,692 babies born to 2,270 women with HIV from the SMARTT and IMPAACT 1025 studies:

- 270 babies were born to mothers born with HIV;
- 2,422 babies were born to mothers who got HIV later in life.

All babies were born without HIV.

WHAT WE DID



Preterm = Born more than 3 weeks early



Low birth weight = Less than 5 and a half pounds

We looked at preterm delivery and birth weight in the mother-baby pairs in each group. We also compared birth weight after the babies were born.

WHAT WE FOUND



During pregnancy, mothers born with HIV had:

- Higher viral load
- Lower CD4 counts



Low birth weight was more common in mothers born with HIV ages 23-30.

Mothers born with HIV had babies at a younger age than mothers who got HIV during their lifetime. Mothers born with HIV had lower CD4 counts and higher viral load (amount of virus in the blood) while they were pregnant.

Overall, babies born to mothers born with HIV were not born smaller or premature compared to babies born to mothers who got HIV later in life. There was also no difference in the babies' average birth weight.

WHAT WE LEARNED



Some babies born to mothers born with HIV do not seem to be at higher risk for being born smaller or too early. However, lower birth weight was observed in mothers born with HIV ages 23-30. More studies should be done to understand why babies of women in this age group born with HIV might be born smaller.