

**Project No:** 3494/2006

**Efficacy of single dose nevirapine in reducing viral load in hiv positive mother in labour and transmission of hiv infection to new born babies as part of prevention of parent to child transmission (pptct)**

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**Principal Worker**

Lt Col Devendra Arora

**Unit**

AFMC

**Objectives**

Transmission of HIV infection from the monogamous women to their babies is a problem in India. Prevention of parent to child transmission (PPTCT) program was initiated by National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) and also accepted by the office of DGAFMS/DG-3A to reduce the vertical transmission of HIV by instituting single dose Nevirapine in untreated HIV positive mothers in second stage labour. This study was conducted to evaluate the role of single dose Nevirapine to decrease the plasma viral load of HIV infected mother during labour and its efficacy in prevention of Mother to Child transmission of HIV.

**Method**

Thirty antenatal women who tested positive for HIV at PPTCT centre of AFMC, Pune and delivered between Jan 2006 to May 2008 were recruited for the study. During labour these HIV positive women were given Nevirapine and the newborns were given Nevirapine as per DGAFMS guidelines. The babies were tested for HIV infection at 48 hours and six weeks after delivery.

**Results**

Out of thirty HIV positive antenatal women who delivered at our centre four newborns were found to be positive for HIV infection at 48 hours and only three were detected for HIV infection after six weeks interval. One infant at six weeks was found to be negative for HIV infection.

**Recommendations**

The protection rate of Nevirapine in untreated HIV positive women is encouraging but not ideal. It is recommended that all HIV positive women should be offered Highly Active Anti Retroviral therapy (HAART) as primary mode for PPTCT protocol to our clientele in Armed Forces.