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**EFFECTS OF HAART THERAPY ON CD4
AND VIRAL LOAD AMONG HIV
PREGNANT WOMEN**

**INSTITUTION: THE KENYA POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE**

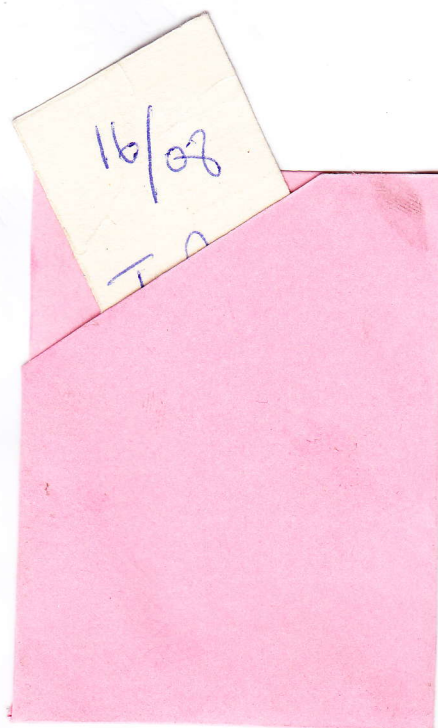
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ABSTRACT

This study seeks to monitor virological and immunological response in relation to adherence among pregnant women, ARV naïve pregnant women started on a Highly Active Antiretroviral Treatment (HAART) in prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV among antenatal women who are attending clinic at the Mbagathi District Hospital. We evaluated adherence rates and trends in CD4 count and viral load (VL) among 134 patients (32 weeks of study). Amplicor version 1.5. Blood was collected in EDTA and plasma separated within 6 hours of collection. During result analysis, there was a significant increase in the median CD4 and a significant decrease in median VL throughout the intervention. Median age of participants was 26 years between the range of 18-38 years, of which 104 (77.6%) patients reporting high compliance at 6 months post-partum, 20 (14.9%) had undetectable VL, while the remaining 10 (7.5%) had VL \geq 10,000 copies/ml.