

# Direct Relief and AbbVie Foundation- Preventing Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV in Countries with Greatest Need

## Overview:

- Every day, approximately 1,000 children worldwide become infected with HIV, more than 90 percent through mother-to-child transmission during pregnancy, delivery, or breastfeeding.
- Enabling pregnant women to know their HIV status before they give birth is the first step in preventing mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV. However, for many pregnant women living in the developing world, testing is limited because of cost, time required to receive results, and lack of trained health care staff and testing facilities.
- Expanding HIV testing for pregnant women is an essential component in helping to [prevent mother-to-child transmission \(PMTCT\) of HIV](#), a key focus in the global effort to combat HIV/AIDS.

## Highlights:

- In 2002 Abbott made a commitment to donate rapid (15 minute) HIV tests to PMTCT programs in all of Africa and the Least Developed Countries, as defined by the United Nations. In 2013, the HIV Rapid Test Donation Program became part of the AbbVie Foundation.
- Program provides access to rapid HIV-tests (historically has been Determine tests) to identify and refer to treatment pregnant women who are HIV-positive and reduce transmission of the virus to the child.
- AbbVie Foundation is part of an international effort to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of reducing the new pediatric HIV infection rate through PMTCT to less than 5% by the end of 2015.



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## Results/Impacts Achieved:

- Since 2002, Abbott, Abbott Fund, and AbbVie Foundation have invested more than \$22.5MM in cash and in-kind donations and their support has resulted in more than 27.5 million HIV rapid tests being donated.
- Minimum of 225,000 cases of HIV averted in infants over past 13 years.
- Direct Relief currently works with partners in sub-Saharan Africa, Nepal and Haiti. In-country partners include: hospitals, health centers, Ministries of Health and other private and public health facilities.

## Challenges/Lessons Learned: (need separate slide)

- Focus on whole patient journey – finding (testing), linking, treating and retaining (FLTR), not just one component
  - Need significant resources and/or partners to do well if program has broad reach, which this one did
  - Worked with BI initially, who provided the meds, then others
- Linking donation to ongoing programs where more comprehensive data can be collected and analyzed to provide:
  - More clear and compelling outcomes beyond # of tests donated
  - To better tell a more complete story on the outcomes/impact of the program (beyond the donation)
- Balance need to be responsive to crisis (as in AIDS) and plan for long-term program that can demonstrate results/impact

## Proposed Presenter(s):

- Jeff Richardson, VP AbbVie Foundation
- Andrew Schroeder, Director of Research and Analysis, Direct Relief

