

CROI 2007 highlights A patient's view

Gus Cairns
UKC

New drugs

- Raltegravir (MK-0518) – Integrase Inhibitor
- Maraviroc – CCR5 inhibitor
- TMC278 – NNRTI
 - New classes or new advantages in old classes
 - How will they new drugs be used/sequenced?
 - What do we know yet about resistance/side effects?

Prevention strategies

Circumcision

- More data that circumcision reduces HIV infection
 - How will this knowledge be used?
 - How will programmes be implemented?
 - Will groups other than heterosexual men benefit?
- **PrEP**
 - Some ARV combinations highly effective in macaque model, but clear dose response
 - Trials ongoing/due to start: which at-risk groups may benefit if effective?
- **Microbicides**
 - Rectal tenofovir gel effective in macaque model
 - CONRAD study discontinuation a reminder that there is much to discover about this strategy

Transmission

- **Quebec genotyping study:** About half of transmission from people in early infection
- **SF and Seattle pooled RNA testing** picks up more (early) infections
- **NY bathhouse testing:** found large minority of early infections
- **NY 'routine' testing** programme hasn't so far seen increase in actual testing rates
 - How do we target early infection?
 - How do we raise testing rates in at-risk communities?
- **SMART substudy:** risk of transmission 2-3 times lower in people on continuous therapy
 - Implications for ARV treatment strategies

Pathogenesis/progression

- Plenary and numerous studies
- All hinge on immune-system response to massive early depletion of gut effector-memory CD4s
 - Roles of:
 - Eventual failure of central-memory replenishment?
 - Microbial translocation and inflammatory state?
 - CD8 escape?
- Implications for treatment strategies/vaccines/PrEP?

Developing-world issues

- Tuberculosis
 - “Urgent and coordinated action needed on XDR-TB” – how?
 - SA study: don’t delay HAART in people with low CD4s
- Breast-feeding
 - A number of studies show increased morbidity and mortality in babies on formula or weaned early after exclusive breastfeeding
 - Implications for WHO breastfeeding recommendations
- Septrin + bednets reduced malaria in HIV+ children by 97%
 - A reminder that simple non-ARV-based strategies have their place

References 1: New drugs

- Raltegravir
 - Cooper D. 14th CROI Abstract #105aLB
 - Steigbigel R. 14th CROI #105bLB
- Maraviroc
 - Nelson M. 14th CROI #104aLB
 - Lalezari J. 14th CROI #104bLB
- TMC278
 - Pozniak A. 14th CROI #144LB

References 2: Prevention

- Circumcision
 - Gray R. 14th CROI #155aLB
 - Wawer M. 14th CROI #155bLB
- PrEP
 - Garcia-Lerma JG. 14th CROI #985 and #986
- Microbicides
 - Cranage M. 14th CROI # 29

References 3: Transmission

- In primary infection:
 - Brenner B. 14th CROI #150
- Using pooled PCR to detect primary infection:
 - Stelder J. 14th CROI #340
 - Klausner J 14th CROI #953
- NY bathhouse testing:
 - Daskalakis D. 14th CROI #152
- Routine testing:
 - Smerd R. 14th CROI #958
- SMART substudy:
 - Burman W. 14th CROI #979

References 4: Pathogenesis

- Plenary:
 - Picker L. 14th CROI #14
- Other pathogenesis presentations:
 - Yang O. 14th CROI #64. *NB* presenter listed as Heidmann T. in programme
 - Brenchley J. 14th CROI #65
- Treatment strategies: see especially
 - Levy Y. 14th CROI #127
 - Sereti I. 14th CROI #128

References 5

- Developing-world issues
 - TB:
 - Weyer K. 14th CROI #8
 - Breastfeeding:
 - Creek T. 14th CROI #9
 - Septrin + bednets
 - Gasasira A. 14th CROI #78