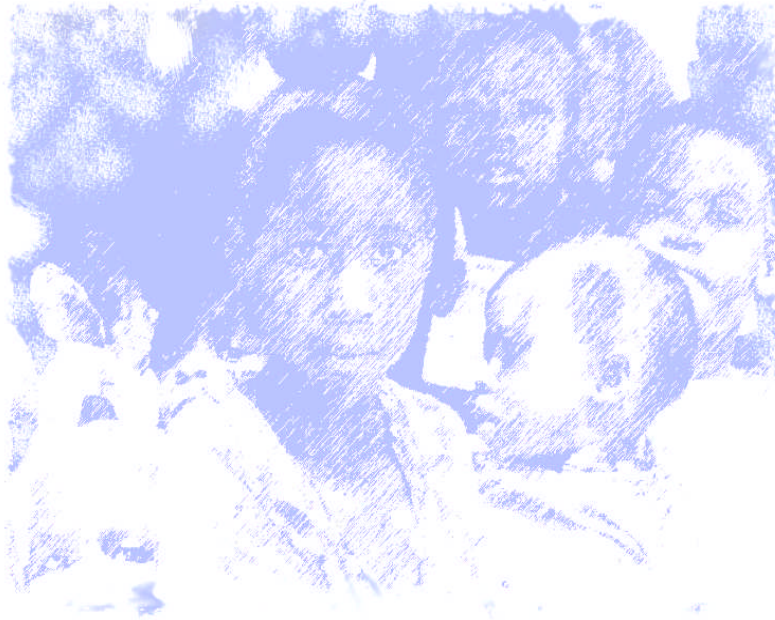


Save a Life

A program of Global Strategies for HIV Prevention



Your donations do make a difference...

Enough to provide nevirapine for over 50,000 HIV infected pregnant women and their infants. A single dose of nevirapine given to the mother at the time of labor and delivery and a single dose to her infant can protect as many as 50% of the infants from a fatal HIV infection. With your donations to Save a Life we have reached over 70 hospitals and clinics in 18 countries throughout the world. Some of these programs were the first in their country to ever receive nevirapine to treat HIV infected pregnant women and prevent infection of their infants.

Some encouraging comments from our recipients:

From a mother in South Africa:

"Knowing about nevirapine has opened up a new world to me - a world of hope and health. I appeal to every member of the community to love and help people affected by this illness. We need to remember that God loves us all!"

From a doctor in Malawi:

"Our first patient already knew she was HIV-infected when she heard about the new program where she could get nevirapine. She took two minibus rides over three hours to find us. We had not quite begun to offer the service. She went to the administrative office, 15 minutes away from the clinic, and was waiting in the outer office at 7:30 in the morning, already in labor. We got her to the hospital immediately, went to our locker in the pharmacy and got the nevirapine. She delivered twins so we went back and got some more. Our clinic opened the following week. Mother and both baby girls are doing fine. Three weeks later a woman came up from Zomba in the south, four hours away. We've already seen 300 women over two months. 98% accepted HIV testing with 21% HIV infected and all accepted nevirapine."

From a nurse in Sub Sahara Africa:

"We want to give God the glory for the changes seen in the women's attitudes towards HIV testing ... they realize that nevirapine is part of the solution now! And who knows, God may have more answers for us in the future."

From a program administrator in Kenya:

"Women here understand what it means and what it doesn't mean and they want nevirapine for their babies. That about says it. So on their behalf, thanks!"

From a doctor in Tanzania:

“What has the gift of nevirapine meant to this program? It is clear to me that without the focus on the positive role of this intervention that we would be in the same hopeless situation that we were in 2000. Most encouraging is that communities remote from Sikonge have heard about the program and are starting to build maternal child health clinics so that they too can join in the program. How does that make you feel about the power of medicine? Our sincere thanks ...”

From a clinic that received their first nevirapine:

“When we started offering nevirapine people wanted to know their HIV status and wanted to receive counseling. We set up a two-week training course, which included health-care workers and a pastor from a local church. After the training the pastor began to talk about HIV in his church. It was clear that nevirapine was the big draw. We ran out of HIV test kits.”

What else needs to be done?

Nevirapine is life saving but we have much more to do. Many hospitals and clinics also need HIV test kits (\$1.25 each) and funds to train individuals to do voluntary counseling and testing for HIV. Right now treating HIV infection is too expensive- about \$300 to 600/year/person - but we can use daily Bactrim that only costs \$ 6-12/year/person to prevent opportunistic infections and keep HIV infected mothers healthier so that they can live longer and take care of their families.

Remember, each day there are 1,800 infants born in the developing world that are HIV infected. **There is only one opportunity to prevent HIV infection – once an infant is infected it can never be undone.**

So where does Save A Life fit in?

We need your continued support. Because we move quickly we can provide nevirapine, Bactrim, and HIV test kits to underserved programs that need these drugs now and can't wait. Although there are other programs targeting prevention of HIV transmission, some quite large, we continue to receive urgent requests from underserved hospitals and clinics that cannot access these programs or want to set up their prevention programs while they wait for other funds.

Thanks to our donors

Our special thanks to First Presbyterian Church Berkeley who initiated Save a Life and to their generous donors, the many other churches and individuals who contributed, the Robert James Frascino Foundation and the Catholic Medical Mission Board who helped us obtain and ship discounted drugs. You have all helped us reach over 50,000 HIV infected pregnant women and their infants as we move toward a generation of children free from HIV.

Arthur J. Ammann MD, President

Tax-exempt donations may be sent to:

Global Strategies for HIV Prevention (501 (c) (3) non profit organization)
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