

**A RESEARCH PROJECT ON KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE
OF HIV/AIDS POSITIVE MOTHERS ATTENDING PMTCT
CLINIC ON INFANT FEEDING AND PRACTICE AT PUMWANI
MATERNITY HOSPITAL**

BY

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT PRESENTED TO THE SCHOOL OF
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ABSTRACT

This was a descriptive cross sectional study done in Pumwani Maternity Hospital, Nairobi County, Kamukunji Sub-county. The study was confined to HIV positive mothers attending PNC and PMTCT Clinics at the hospital.

The objective of the study was to determine their knowledge, attitude and practices on infant feeding. The study specifically sought to establish this with regards to breast feeding. The study specifically sought to establish this with regards to breastfeeding, replacement and complementary feeding.

The study used a structured questionnaire to collect data and the data was analyzed manually using a calculator. In the study 57.1% were mothers aged 20-29 years. Most of these mothers were married (78.6%) with most of them having 0-3 children. The study further revealed that most of the respondents had a low education level corresponding to a low socio-economic level as most of them were housewives (41.1%).

With regards to infant feeding, all the mothers (100%) were knowledgeable about exclusive Breastfeeding and 91.1% having knowledge on replacement feeding. However, knowledge on mixed feeding and complementary feeding was rather low at 28.6% and 12.5% respectively. It is worth noting that 60.7% of the babies were fed appropriately within 1 hour of birth and 78.6% were not given any pre-lacteal feed.

Majority of the mothers agreed that in their community most mothers practice exclusive breastfeeding because it is best for the baby and upon advise the health worker. Those who do not it is mainly because of their HIV status.

The study concluded that the mothers have knowledge on infant feeding but recommended health education on mixed feeding and complementary feeding through multimedia and training of appropriate health workers.