

HIV Care for Pregnant Women, Newborns and Children Lessons Learned in Prevention and Multidisciplinary Service Delivery

Mary E. Caffery

The Department of Pediatrics, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, California, USA



Since 1989, the University of California Mother-Child-Adolescent HIV Program has provided high quality, culturally competent, family-centered HIV primary medical care, and support services that link, retain and effectively treat; pregnant women, children, adolescents and young adults. Through research, clinical care and education, the program constantly improves the care and treatment of women, children and youth and prevents new HIV infections. As a multidisciplinary program within an academic medical center, UCSD-MCAP links multiple departments (Pediatrics/ Adolescent Medicine, Reproductive Health, Internal Medicine, Psychiatry, Neurosciences, and Nutrition) in the delivery of care and clinical research. By increasing HIV testing for women, comprehensive preconception counseling, specialized prenatal care and perinatal HIV risk reduction interventions, mother to child HIV transmission has been virtually eliminated. Early detection and effective treatment of children and youth has significantly improved survival and quality of life. A presentation with case discussions will describe the beneficial health outcomes of a coordinated system of HIV care.

Brief Biosketch:

Mary Caffery, RN, MSN Coordinator of the UCSD Mother-Child- Adolescent HIV Program

Ms. Caffery attended the University of San Diego for a BS in Nursing and San Diego State University, MS: Nursing. She joined the UCSD Pediatrics, Division of Infectious Diseases in 1991 and has extensive experience in the delivery of HIV care and research to pregnant women, children and youth. She participated in the NIH funded Pediatric AIDS Clinical Trials Group, the International Maternal Pediatric Adolescent AIDS Clinical Trial Network, and the Pediatric HIV AIDS Cohort Studies to investigate new treatments for HIV, prevent mother-to-child transmission and monitor the impact of antiretrovirals on maternal and child health. Ms. Caffery actively participates in the HIV Health Service Planning Group that organizes medical care and social services for people living with HIV/AIDS in San Diego County.
