

Virtual Pre-Conference

Continuity of HIV Care in the Presence of COVID-19

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HIV Care at a time of Crisis





Experiences from AHF Africa Programs

Regional data: HIV Data for Africa



Region	Adults & Children living with HIV	Adults & Children newly infected with HIV	Adult and child deaths due to AIDS
East and Southern Africa	20.6 Million (18.2-23.2 million)	800,000 (620,000 – 1million)	310,000 (230,000 – 400,000)
West and Central Africa	5 million (4 .0 – 6.3 million)	280,000 (180,000 – 420,000)	160,000 (110,000 – 230,000)
Middle East & North Africa	240,000 (160,000 – 390,000)	20,000 (8,500 – 40,000)	8,400 (4,800 – 14,000)
Total Estimates	25.84 Million	1.1 Million	478,400

- Sub-Saharan Africa accounts for 56 % of global HIV disease burden
- 61% of new infections are in Sub-Saharan Africa
- About 13.8 million PHAs accessing ART

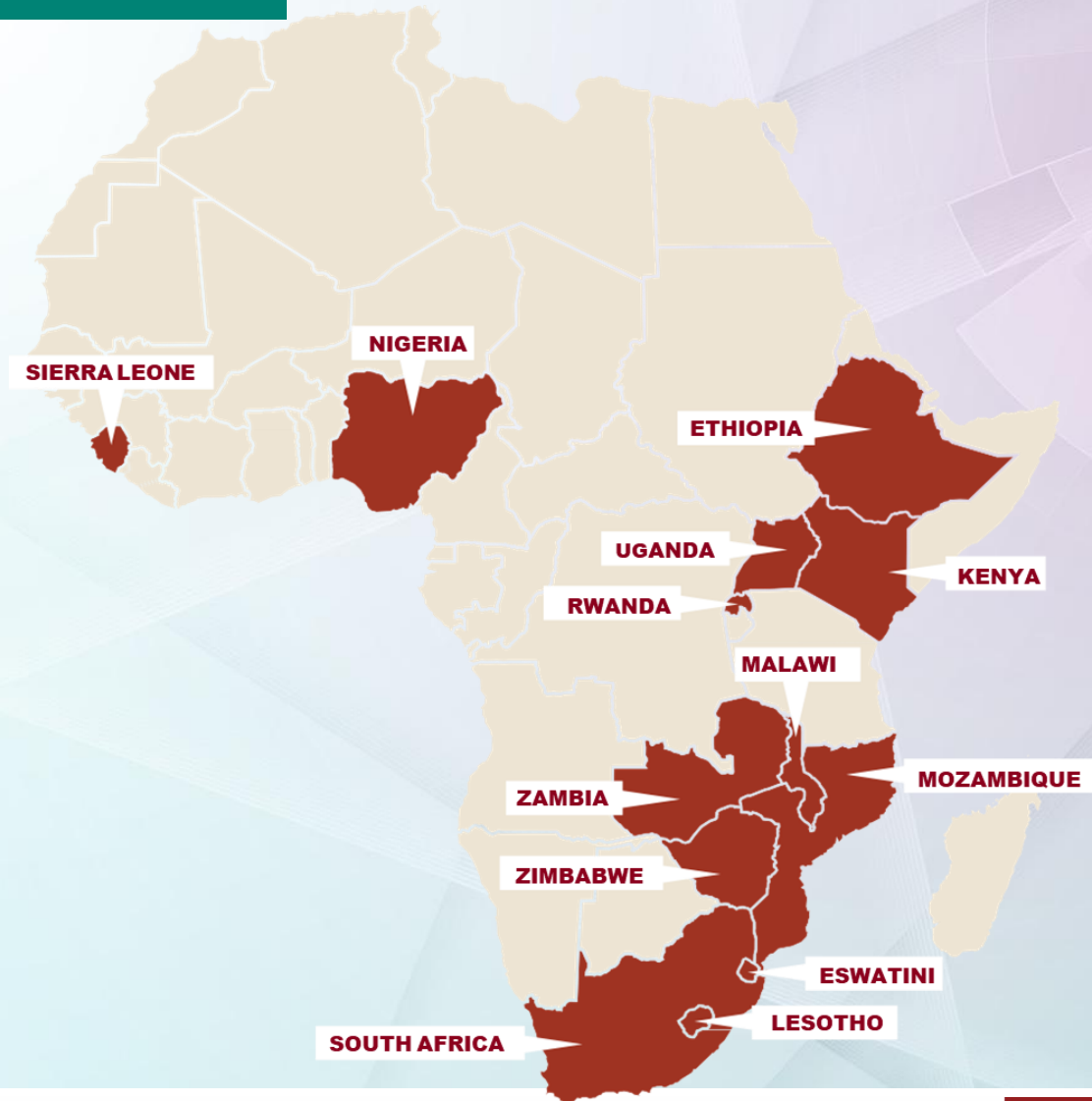
Source : UNAIDS 2019 Data report

Africa Region statistics for COVID 19



- 1st confirmed case of COVID 19 was reported in Egypt on 15th Feb 2019
- May 6th 2020:
 - 49,352 Confirmed cases
 - 16,315 recoveries
 - 1,959 Deaths
 - 53/55 countries impacted (Lesotho & Western Sahara no cases reported)

Countries of Operation



13 Countries of Operation; 668,763 HIV patients in Care

Challenges: COVID 19 pandemic & HIV Care



Challenges in ART clinics:

1. Large volume clinics with high attendance
2. Lack of adherence to appointment times
3. Over crowding
4. Limited space for clinical care vis-a vie patient volumes
5. Staffing challenges
6. Shortages of PPEs
7. Curtailed provision of other services— monitoring tests, linkage, psychosocial support, HIV testing

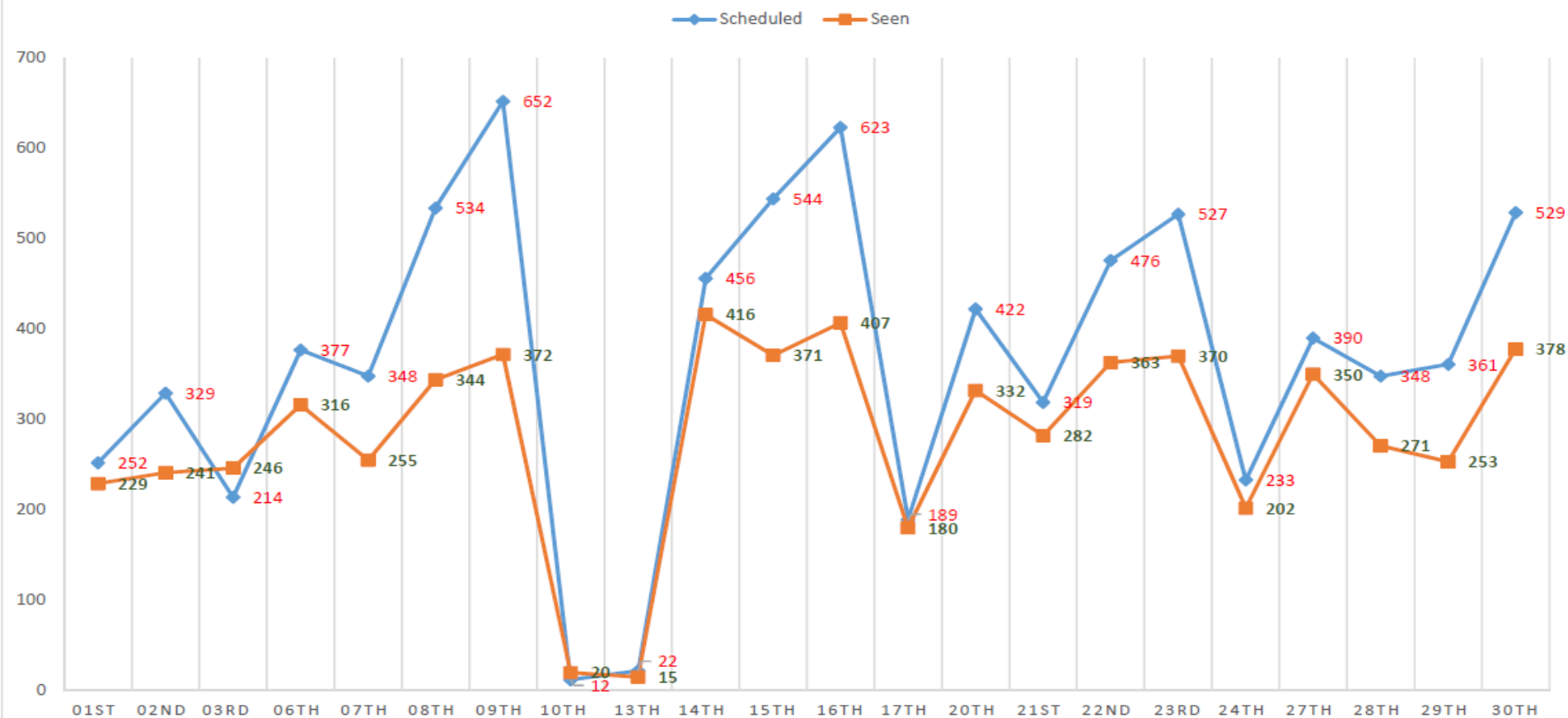
PATIENTS SCHEDULED FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2020

Week 1		Week 2	
Day	Number	Day	Number
06 th April 2020-Monday	377	13 th April 2020-Monday	22
07 th April 2020-Tuesday	348	14 th April 2020-Tuesday	456
08 th April 2020- Wednesday	534	15 th April 2020- Wednesday	544
09 th April 2020- Thursday	652	16 th April 2020- Thursday	623
10 th April 2020- Friday	12	17 th April 2020- Friday	189
Week 3		Week 4	
Day	Number	Day	Number
20 th April 2020-Monday	422	27 th April 2020-Monday	390
21 st April 2020-Tuesday	319	28 th April 2020-Tuesday	348
22 nd April 2020- Wednesday	476	29 th April 2020- Wednesday	361
23 rd April 2020- Thursday	527	30 th April 2020- Thursday	529
24 th April 2020- Friday	233	01 st May 2020- Friday	18





PATIENTS SCHEDULED FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2020 VS THOSE SEEN DURING THE MONTH AT MASAKACLINIC

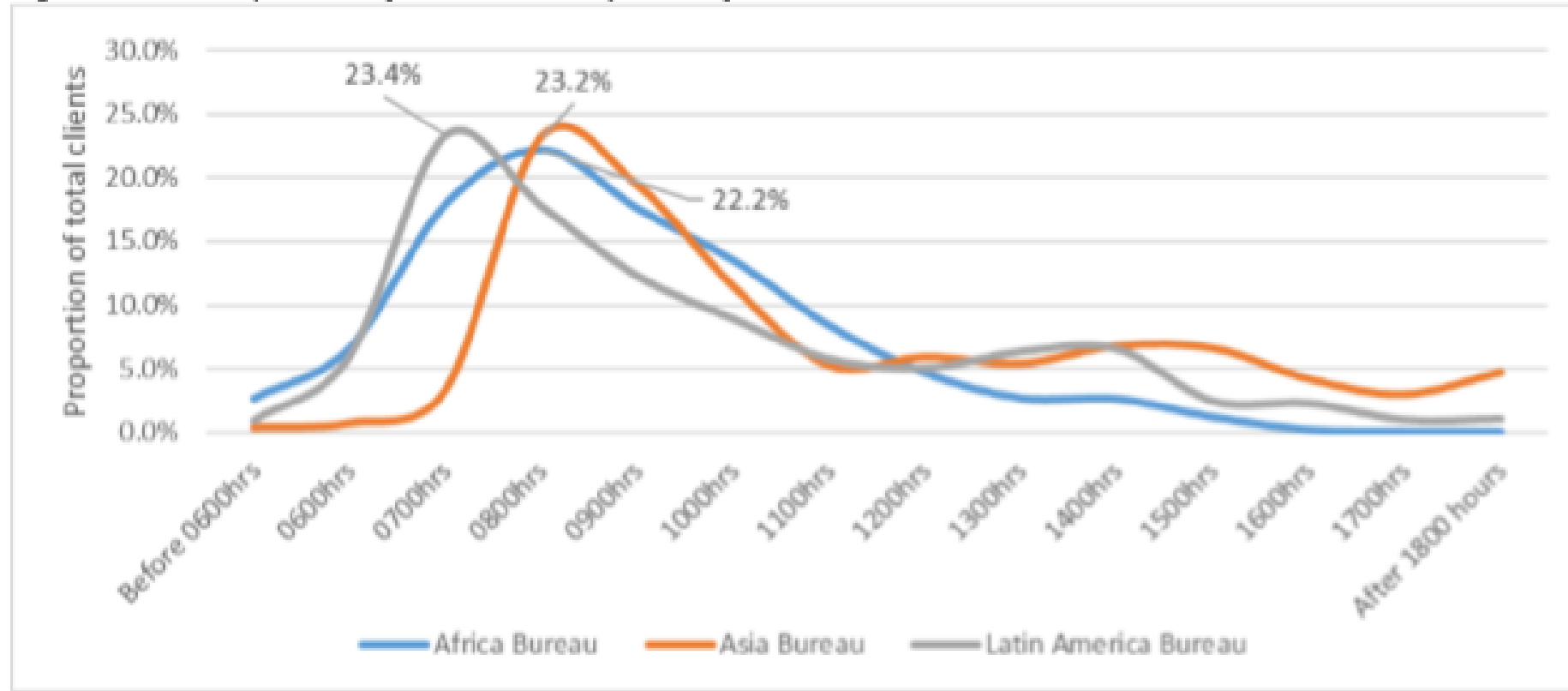


Patients attendance at Masaka Clinic - April 2020

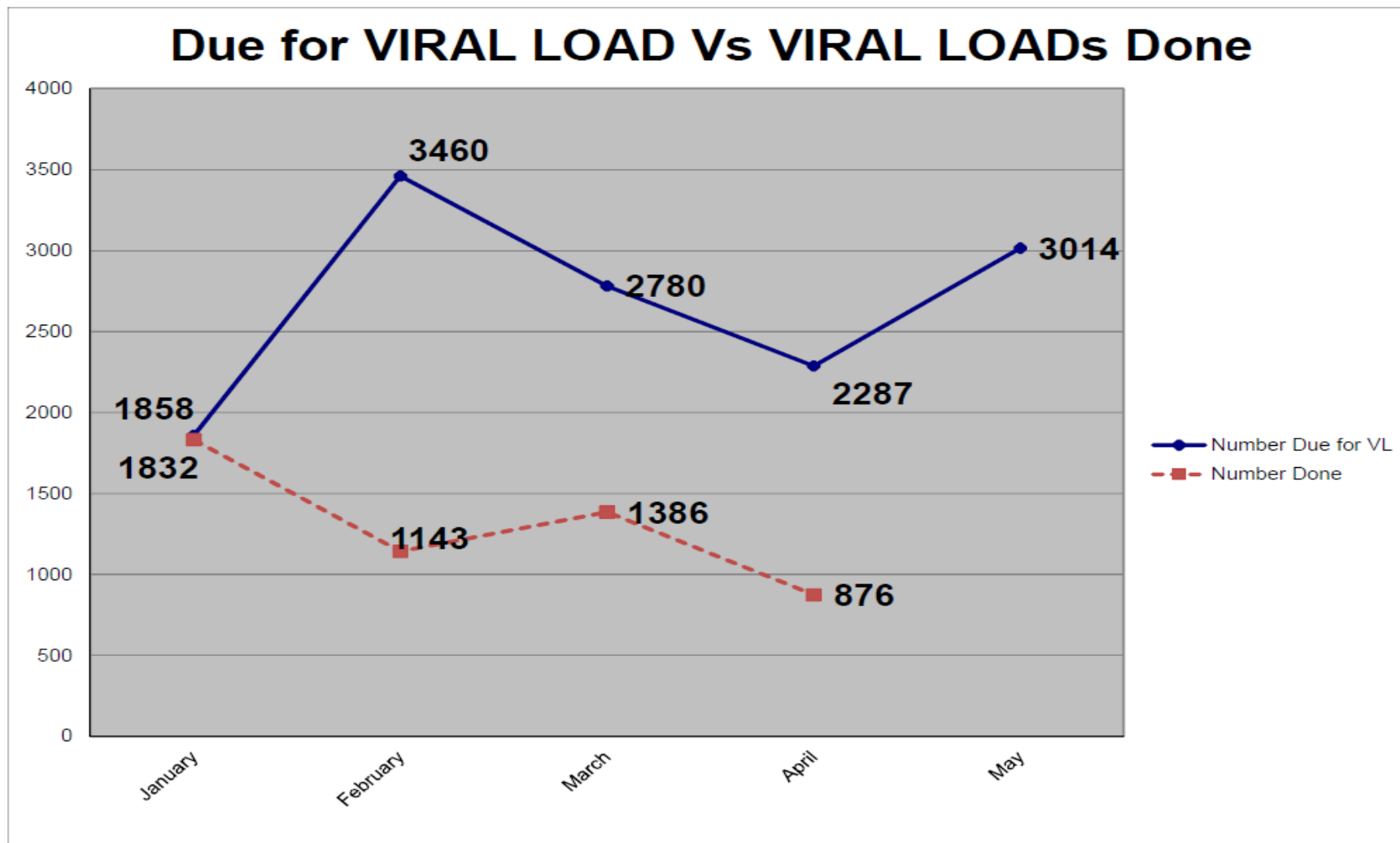
Overcrowding : Arrival time at clinics



Figure 7.4.1: Proportion of clients seen by time of arrival



Overcrowding: Majority of clients arrive at the clinic before 11 am leading to overcrowding



Curtailed provision of other services : Q1 Viral load tests – Masaka ART clinic

Emergency response



Aims:

1. Patient safety
2. Access and availability of sufficient ARV doses
3. Staff safety and knowledge
4. Enhance community knowledge on COVID
5. Harness past experience dealing with Ebola to shape the emergency response

Emergency response



Preparation

1. Patient centred response
2. Enhanced communication & Information sharing:
 - Emergency response plans
 - Lean communication tree
 - Technology to aide response

Response

1. Emergency response teams
2. Intercountry& Interdepartmental collaboration
3. PPE procurement
4. Staff education on COVID
5. Multi-month dispensing of ARVs
6. Addressing food insecurity

Emergency response



- Implementation of Infection control procedures:
 - hand washing
 - wearing masks
 - physical distancing at facility level
- Home delivery of meds
- Multi month prescriptions 3 – 6 months
- Information sharing – WhatsApp
- Online E-health education for staff
- Procurements of PPEs and support between countries

Patient Safety – Physical distancing



COVID - 19 preventive measures at Ithembalabantu clinic – AHF South Africa

Home delivery of ARVs



Home delivery of ARV meds using peer supporters and Safe Boda motorcycle delivery

Emergency response - continued



Recovery:

Goals:

1. Protect and Preserve: Safety for patients and HWs at all times
2. Adapt efficient modes of delivering ARVs closer to communities:
 - Automated Machine dispensing of ARVs
 - Enhanced ARV distribution channels e.g community pharmacies,
 - home delivery networks e.g CAGs, motorcycle/ bicycle deliveries

Mitigation:

Advocacy : Global support for a Global Public Health Convention

Ongoing challenges



Patient and Facility level:

- Insufficient stocks of PPES
- Invalid phone contacts, addresses
- Insufficient ARV stocks due to lockdowns in China & India
- Misinformation about COVID
- Food insecurity
- Lack of community level support due to lockdown
- Stigma and discrimination
- Loss to follow up
- Lack of transport due to lockdowns