

An information sheet about an anti-AIDS poster exhibition designed and produced by Artis as part of a collaboration with the Unesco/WHO AIDS prevention education programme; with explanation about the contamination risks of HIV infected women to their children through pregnancy and childbirth. Colour lithograph, ca. 1990's.

Publication/Creation

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Existe el riesgo
de que la
madre seropositiva
transmita el VIH
a su hijo durante el embarazo
y el parto.

Este riesgo varía mucho según los países (entre 20 % y 50 %) y depende de numerosos factores relacionados con el estado de la madre durante el embarazo.

Este riesgo potencial plantea serios dilemas a las mujeres infectadas que desean tener hijos. Para una mujer seropositiva, prever, iniciar y llevar a término un embarazo es un recorrido difícil. La mujer y su compañero se ven confrontados a un conjunto de riesgos que hay que evaluar, asumir y enfrentar en la incertidumbre:

- riesgo de dar a luz a un niño cuya esperanza de vida es limitada;
- riesgo de verse en la imposibilidad de criar a su hijo.

La gran mayoría de los bebés amamantados por madres infectadas con el VIH no se contaminan con la leche de pecho. Según las recomendaciones de la OMS, de la UNICEF y de la UNESCO, en todas las poblaciones, cualesquiera que sean las tasas de infección de VIH que tengan, se debe seguir defendiendo, promoviendo y favoreciendo la lactación de pecho.



An HIV-positive mother can pass the virus on to her child during pregnancy or in the course of childbirth.

The contamination risk ratio varies considerably from one country to the next (20 to 50 percent) and depends on many factors having to do with the mother's condition during pregnancy.

This potential risk places infected women in a serious predicament if they wish to have children. For an HIV-infected woman, to plan, begin and complete a pregnancy is a difficult path. Together, the woman and her partner have to face a number of risks that have to be evaluated, accepted and taken in complete uncertainty, which include: giving birth to a child with a limited life expectancy, not being able to bring up the child.

In the great majority of cases, breast-feeding does not transmit HIV from an infected mother to her infant through the mother's milk. WHO, UNICEF and UNESCO advise that breast-feeding should continue to be supported, promoted and encouraged among all populations, no matter what their HIV-infection rate may be.