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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Ab	antibody
Ag	antigen
ANC	antenatal care
ARR	absolute risk reduction: the difference in the event rate between the control group (CER) and treated group (EER): ARR = CER – EER
ART	antiretroviral therapy
ARV	antiretroviral
AZT	zidovudine
b-DNA	branched DNA (assay)
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CER	control group event rate
CHER	children with HIV early antiretroviral therapy
CI	confidence interval: the range around a study's result within which the true value would be expected to lie
CRF	circulating recombinant forms
DBS	dried blood spot
DPS	dried plasma spot
EER	evaluation event rate
EIA	enzyme immunoassay
ELISA	enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
EQAS	external quality assessment scheme
FN	false negative
FP	false positive
GRADE	grading of recommendations assessment, development and evaluation
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
HR	hazard ratio
IATT	Inter-Agency Task Team
Ig	immunoglobulin
IMAI	Integrated Management of Adolescent and Adult Illness
IMCI	Integrated Management of Childhood Illness
infant	child less than 12 months of age
LR	likelihood ratio: the likelihood that a given test result would be expected in a patient with the target disorder compared with the likelihood that that same result would be expected in a patient without the target disorder. For a positive test result LR+ = sensitivity/(1–specificity) and for a negative test result LR– = (1–sensitivity)/specificity.
MTCT	mother-to-child transmission (of HIV)
NAT	nucleic acid test
NASBA	nucleic acid sequence-based amplification
NPV	negative predictive value: the proportion of people with a negative test who are free of the disease under study
NNT	number needed to treat: the number of patients who need to be treated to prevent one outcome
OR	odds ratio
p24 Ag	p24 antigen (assay)
PBMC	peripheral blood mononuclear cell

PCR	polymerase chain reaction
PEP	post-exposure prophylaxis
PHCW	primary health-care worker
PICO	population, intervention, comparator and outcome
PICOT	population targeted, intervention, comparator, outcome and time
PITC	provider-initiated testing and counselling
PMTCT	prevention of mother-to-child transmission (of HIV)
POC	point of care
PPV	positive predictive value: the proportion of people with a positive test who have the disease under study
QA	quality assurance
QADAS	quality in diagnostic and screening tests
RCT	randomized controlled trial
RR	relative risk
RT	reverse transcriptase
SdNVP	single-dose nevirapine
Sp	specificity: the probability of having a negative test result when the disease is truly absent
Sn	sensitivity: the probability of having a positive test result when the disease is truly present
SOP	standard operating procedure
STARD	standards for the reporting of diagnostic accuracy studies
TMA	transcription-mediated amplification
TN	true negative
TP	true positive
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
Us p24 Ag	ultrasensitive p24 antigen
WB	western blot
VL	viral load
VQA	virology quality assessment
WHO	World Health Organization
WITS	Women and infants transmission study

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