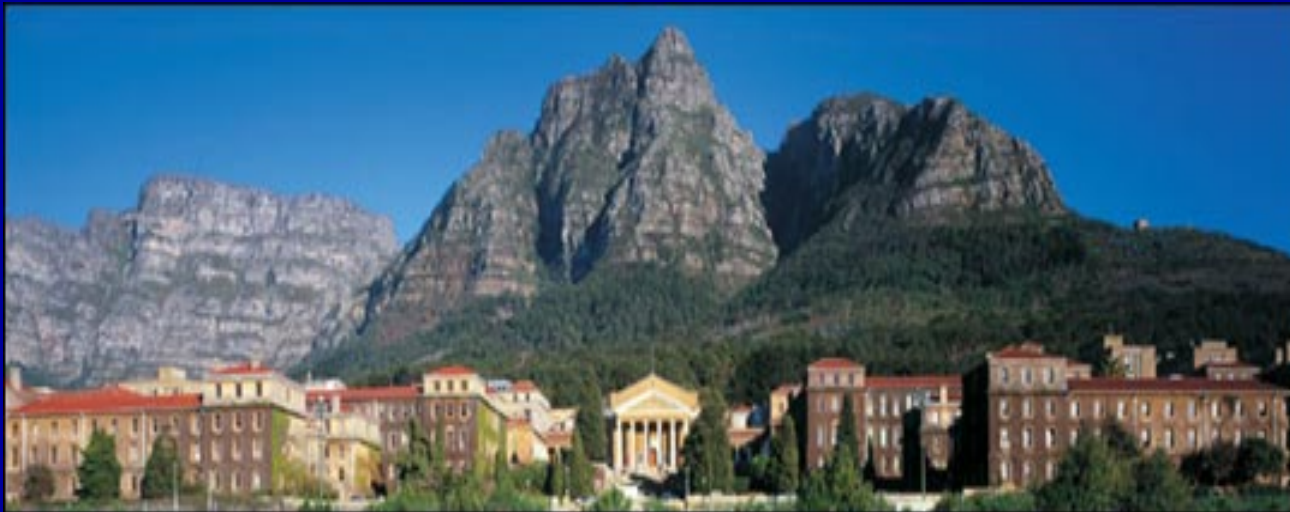


MTN Site Presentation Cape Town 22nd May 2007

Dr David Coetzee – Site Principal Investigator



Location of Research Site

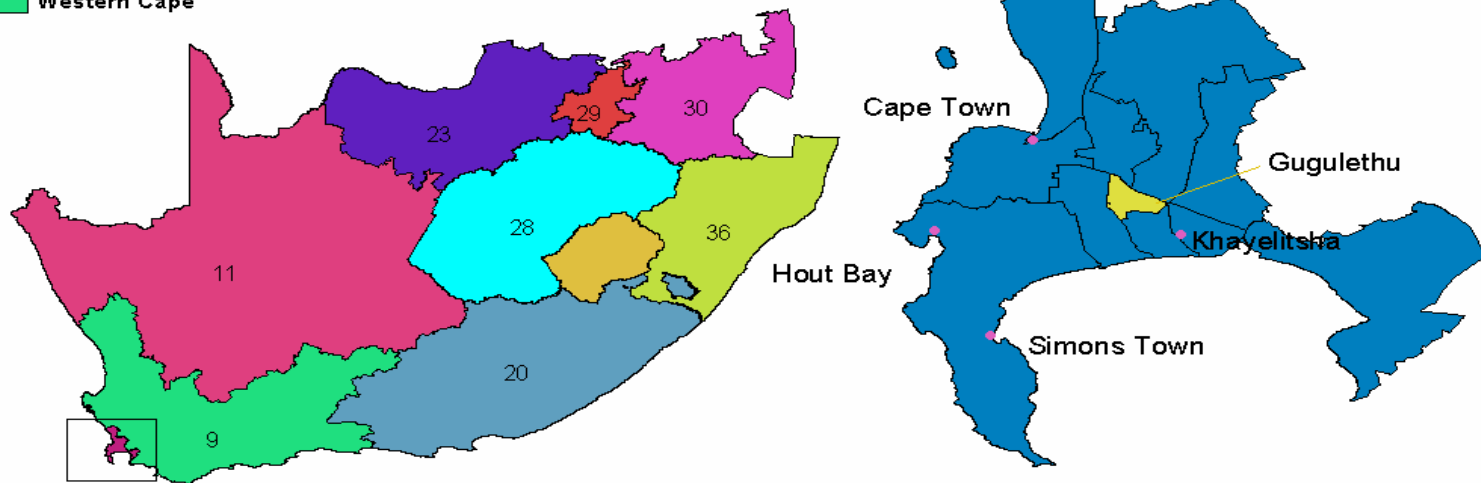


- Research clinic catchment area is Gugulethu, Nyanga and Delft
- Research clinic is situated in Gugulethu within a complex housing other services e.g. workshop for disabled, private practitioners, creche etc
- The clinic is easily accessible to public transport

Location of Research Site

South Africa - Provinces, HIV prevalence: Inset - Cape Town Metropole

- Cape Town Metropole
- Provinces
- Eastern Cape
- Free State
- Gauteng
- KwaZulu-Natal
- Lesotho
- Mpumalanga
- North West
- Northern Cape
- Northern Province
- Western Cape



Population of Catchment Area

- Population about 500,000
- Predominantly Xhosa speaking - “townships”
- Densely populated
- High percentage of informal “shacks”
- 12 public health clinics; one district hospital, several private practitioners
- Low educational levels
- Periodic migration to the Eastern Cape

Recruitment of High Risk Women

- Within the research population that we will be targeting, there is a high level of HIV prevalence (Antenatal HIV prevalence =30%)
- Therefore all women considered high risk
- However, risk decreases with age i.e women over 40 are at lower risk and hence are now generally excluded from future trials
- It is impossible to identify groups of high risk women as there are no formal or organised “sex-worker” networks in this community
- Previously, a multipronged approach was successful in recruiting over 2000 women over 2 years for the Carraguard Phase 3 Trial

Community Involvement

- CAG exists for current trials with regular monthly meetings with site research teams
- CAG team is diverse and representative of the community
- The commitment of CAG members has been excellent to date
- CAG provides very important feedback on community perceptions related to ongoing research and clinic activities
- One challenge is failure to get highly influential community members e.g. pastors to be CAG members due to time constraints

Retention

- Major challenge is the periodic migration to the Eastern Cape (for periods of up to 1 month)
- Key lessons in maximising retention:
 - Frequent updating of locator information
 - Tracing participants in collaboration with community volunteers
 - Anticipating and planning for known migration times e.g. Christmas, Easter

Condom use & Product Adherence

- Condom use is generally very low in our setting
 - male reluctance related to “macho” behaviour
- Product adherence variable dependent on type of product and on individual behaviour
- Key lessons learnt:
 - Ongoing adherence counselling essential
 - Tailor made adherence messages to suit participants lifestyles
 - Participant events to emphasise product and study visit adherence

Site Team



Site Team

