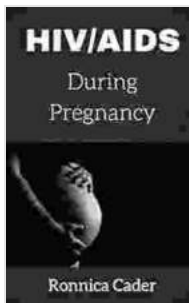


HIV/AIDS During Pregnancy: A Guide for Pregnant Women and Healthcare Providers

HIV/AIDS is a serious threat to both pregnant women and their unborn children. HIV can be transmitted from mother to child during pregnancy, labor, delivery, or breastfeeding. This can have devastating consequences for the child, including premature birth, low birth weight, and even death. However, with proper care and treatment, the risk of HIV transmission can be significantly reduced.



HIV/AIDS During Pregnancy

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 151 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 16 pages
Lending : Enabled



How is HIV Transmitted During Pregnancy?

HIV can be transmitted from mother to child during three main routes:

- **Antepartum transmission:** This occurs when HIV-infected blood or fluids from the mother's vagina or cervix come into contact with the baby's amniotic fluid or membranes during pregnancy.

- **Intrapartum transmission:** This occurs when HIV-infected blood or fluids from the mother's vagina or cervix come into contact with the baby's skin or mucous membranes during labor or delivery.
- **Postpartum transmission:** This occurs when HIV-infected breast milk is fed to the baby.

What are the Risks of HIV Transmission During Pregnancy?

The risk of HIV transmission during pregnancy varies depending on a number of factors, including the mother's viral load, the type of delivery, and the use of antiretroviral therapy (ART). Without treatment, the risk of HIV transmission from mother to child is between 15% and 45%. With ART, this risk can be reduced to less than 5%.

How is HIV Diagnosed and Treated During Pregnancy?

All pregnant women should be tested for HIV as early as possible. If a woman is diagnosed with HIV during pregnancy, she will need to start ART immediately. ART is a combination of medications that can suppress the virus and reduce the risk of transmission to the baby.

What are the Side Effects of ART?

ART can cause side effects, such as nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. These side effects are usually mild and go away over time. If you experience any side effects from ART, talk to your doctor about how to manage them.

What is the Outlook for Women with HIV/AIDS During Pregnancy?

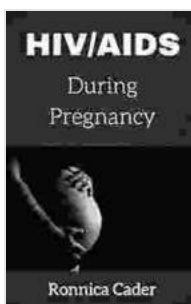
With proper care and treatment, women with HIV/AIDS can have a healthy pregnancy and deliver a healthy baby. However, it is important to follow

your doctor's instructions carefully and take your medications as prescribed.

What are the Benefits of Counseling and Support?

Counseling and support can help women with HIV/AIDS cope with the emotional and psychological challenges of pregnancy. It can also provide support for partners and family members. Counselors can help women understand their options, make informed decisions, and stay motivated to take care of themselves and their babies.

HIV/AIDS can be a serious threat to pregnant women and their unborn children. However, with proper care and treatment, the risk of HIV transmission can be significantly reduced. If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant, talk to your doctor about HIV testing and prevention.



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