A Conceptual Framework to Help Understand Interactions Between Poverty & HIV/AIDS

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INTRODUCTION

- Everybody 'knows' that HIV and poverty are linked
- But the nature of the relationship is far from simple
- Nor is the relationship unidirectional

INTRODUCTION

- Poverty = risk factor for & consequence of HIV infection
- Extensive literature on poverty and HIV/AIDS, but most fails to link the two.
- Need to examine the interactions between poverty and HIV/AIDS
Towards a conceptual framework

HIV infection results in:
- Direct economic impacts
  - loss of income, increased health care expenditure
- Indirect economic impacts
  - social exclusion/stigma
- Increased burden of care
  - especially women and children
- Economic impacts of orphans on households
  - effects of child care grants etc.
- Declining food security, nutrition & health
  - loss of labour

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

HEALTHY PERSON → HIV+ → AIDS → DEATH

Poverty related risk
Consequences of AIDS & death
CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

Healthy Person → HIV+ → AIDS → Death

Poverty

Poor Nutrition

Morbidity & Health Care Costs
- Reduced labour
- Depletion of assets
- Children out of school

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The way forward

- Empirical evidence is needed to establish the relative importance of the identified relationships.
- Evidence needs to be both qualitative and quantitative because poverty is multi-dimensional.
- Various aspects of the relationship will be presented in the papers that follow this one.

Thank you!