



The Themba Lethu Cohort

Right to Care and the Clinical HIV
Research Unit

University of the Witwatersrand

Themba Lethu Clinic

- Government ARV site
- Supported by Right to Care (PEPFAR)
- Large General Hospital
- Restricted choice of ARVs
- Over 4,300 patients on ARVs
- 30 - 40 new patients per week
- 5 other Right to Care sites Urban – Rural
 - over 2,000 patients
- Data stored on TherapyEdge

Themba Lethu Cohort

- Start date April 2004
 - SA government roll-out date
- 3000 have > 6 months follow up
- 3 basic regimens
- Follows SA government guidelines

TherapyEdge

- Designed as an interactive database
- Many exciting features
 - Interactive alerts eg drug interactions
 - Graphical display of patient data
 - Capturing of events
 - Custom reports
 - Export of data to statistical programs
- BUT.....

TherapyEdge

- Data input ‘garbage in – garbage out’
 - Reliance on data captures
 - Interpretation of clinical notes
 - Design of TherapyEdge does not match patient flow
 - Jumping between input screens
 - Incomplete data
 - Redesign of data input
 - ARV initiation form / Follow up visit form
 - Major overhaul of input screens
 - Greatly reduced capture time
 - Eventual goal of real time data capture

TherapyEdge

- Data output
 - Improved relevance of reporting
 - Previously PEPFAR orientated
 - Regular lost to follow up data
 - Regular medication switch reports
 - Improved data export to SAS

TherapyEdge and Pharmacovigilance

- May have potential in ‘cohort event monitoring’- sentinal site
- Records changes in medication and why
- Ability to design output of reports
- Limited lab information

TherapyEdge and Pharmacovigilance

- Themba Lethu Cohort
 - Close association with large teaching hospital
 - Clinical trial expertise
 - CHRU is an ACTG site
 - In depth investigation of adverse events
 - Urban and rural sites on same database

