



# Southern African HIV Clinicians Society 3rd Biennial Conference

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**Our Issues, Our Drugs,  
Our Patients**

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# Long-term Pulse-Wave Velocity changes in children receiving very early ART

## Evidence from the CHER Trial Cohort

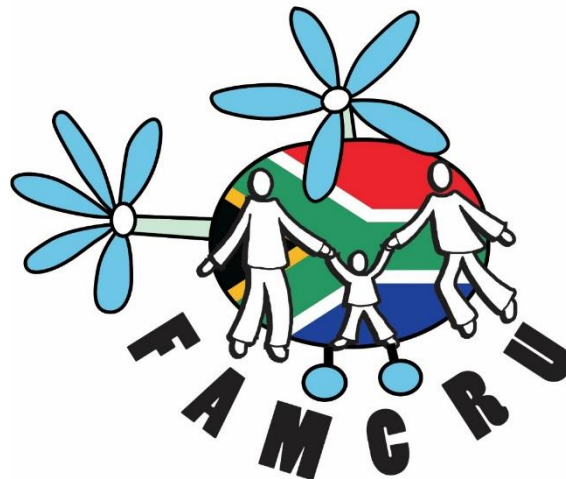
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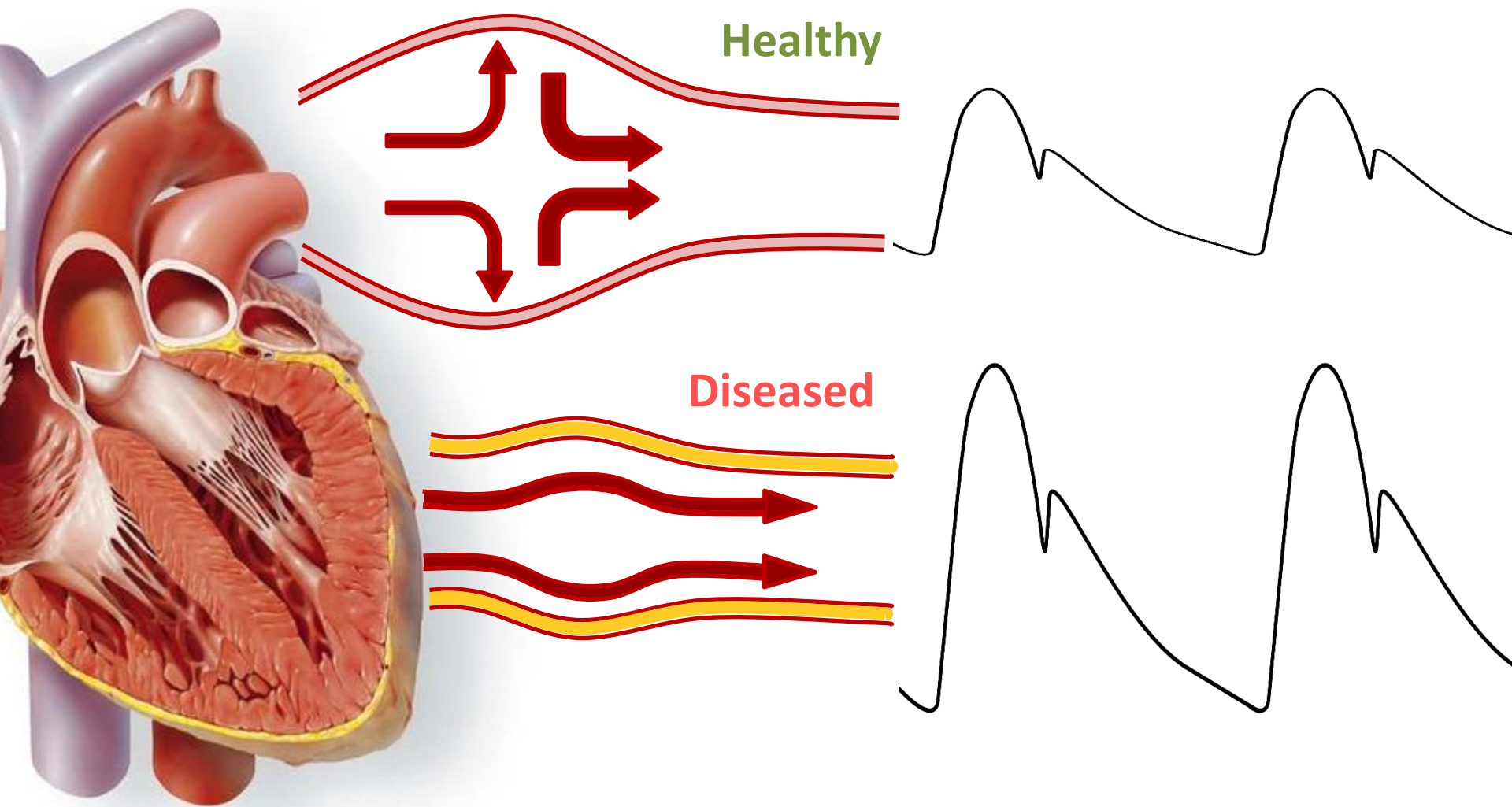
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# Pulse Wave Velocity (PWV)



## Background

- **Vascular disease is accelerated in HIV+ children on ART [1-5]**
- **Whether initiating ART **very early** in life modifies vascular disease risk is unknown**

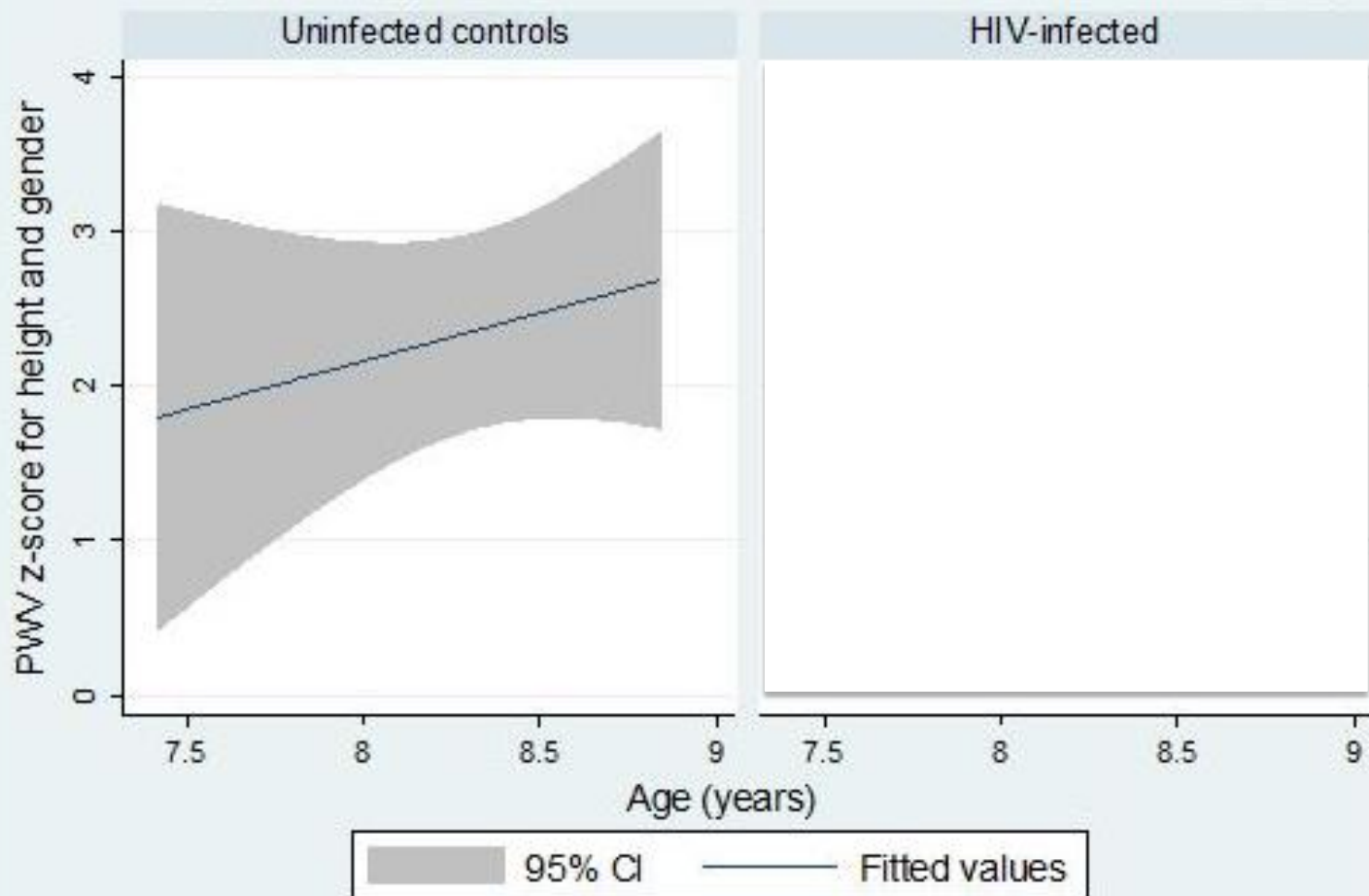
## Method

- **Following Cape Town participants in CHER trial <sup>[7,8]</sup>**  
**(initiated ZDV+3TC+LPVr at median 9 [IQR: 7–12] weeks of age)**
- **HIV-uninfected control group from the same communities and socio-economic background**

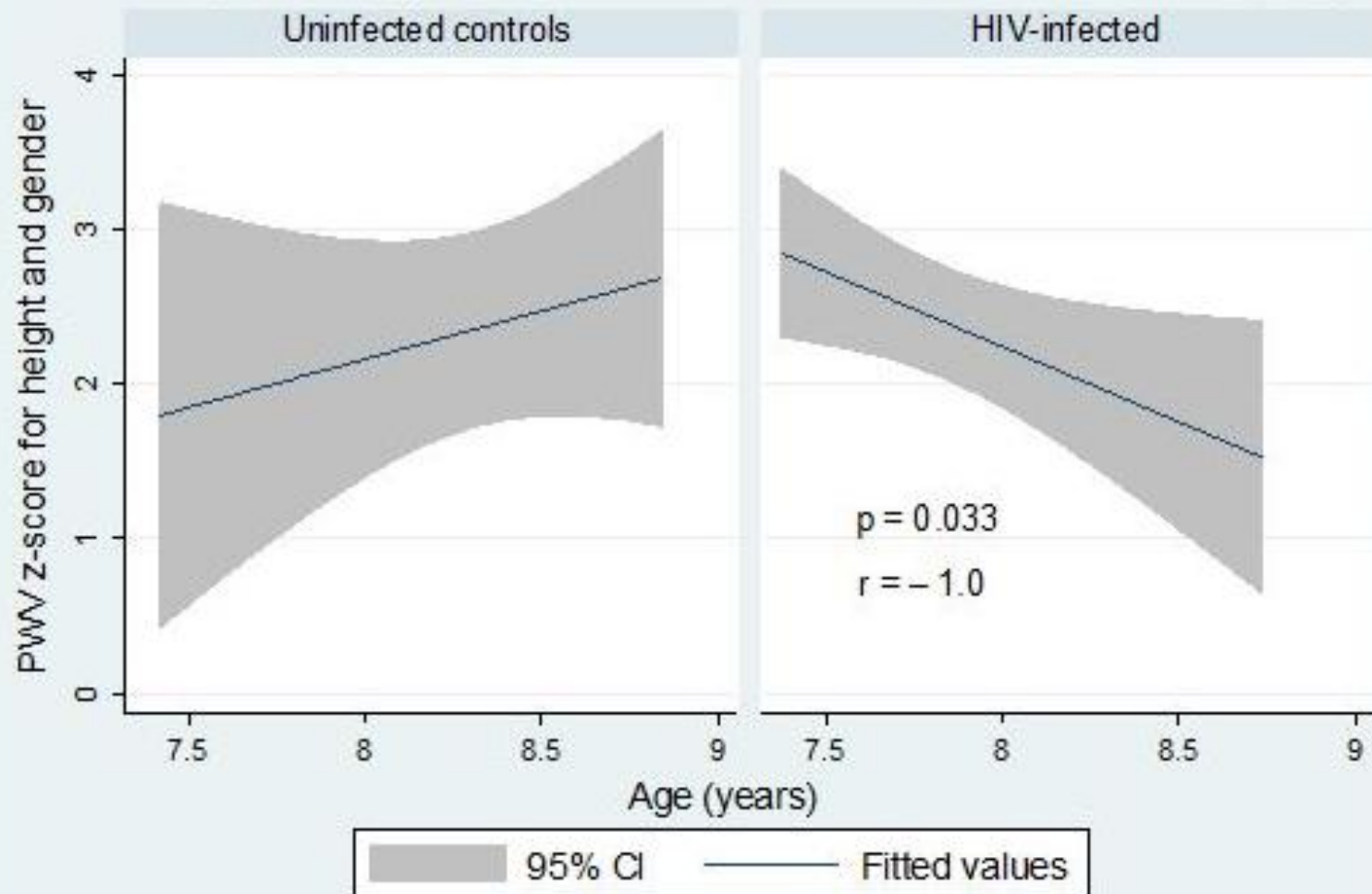
## Method

- **Pulse Wave Velocity (PWV) is sophisticated and sensitive measure of arterial wall stiffness (atherosclerosis)**
- **Reduced elasticity leads to faster propagation of the arterial pulse wave**
- **In asymptomatic adults, PWV elevations strongly predict subsequent incident cardiovascular events [6]**

## Change in height-based PWV z-score with increasing Age

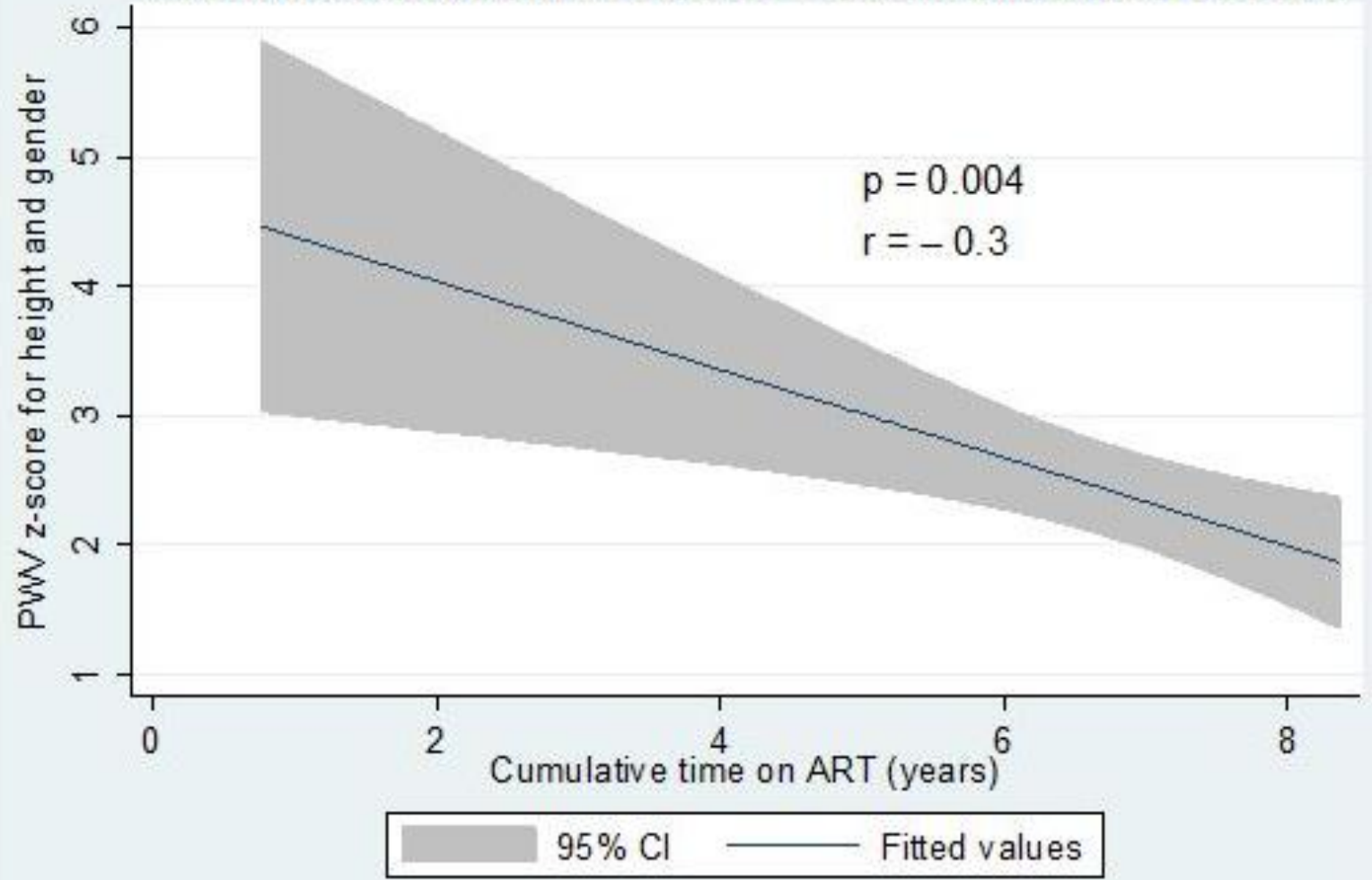


## Change in height-based PWV z-score with increasing Age





# Change in height-based PWV z-score with time on ART



## Conclusion

In children initiating ART very early in infancy in a high-care trial setting, pulse-wave velocity (a measure of arterial wall stiffness, atherosclerosis) *improved* with increasing time on effective ART

## Acknowledgements

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- Prof Mark Cotton
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*Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute  
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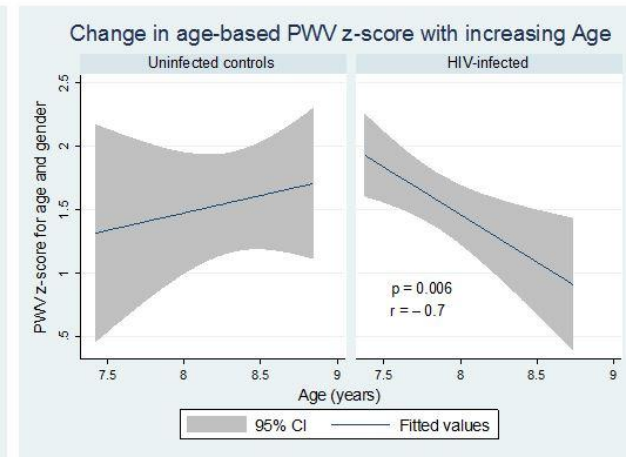
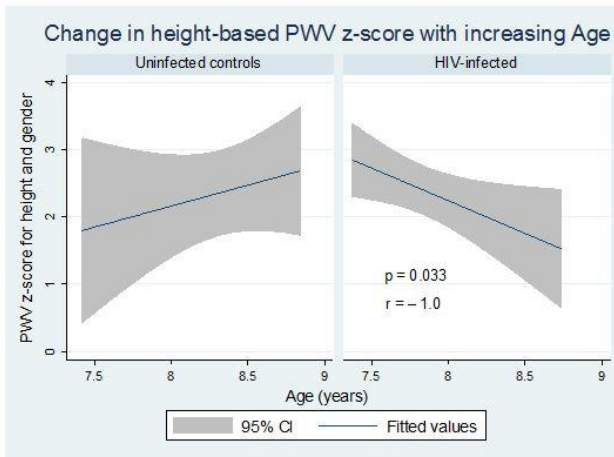
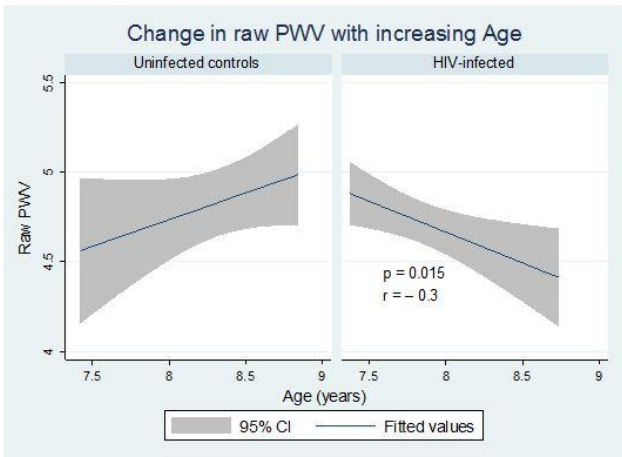
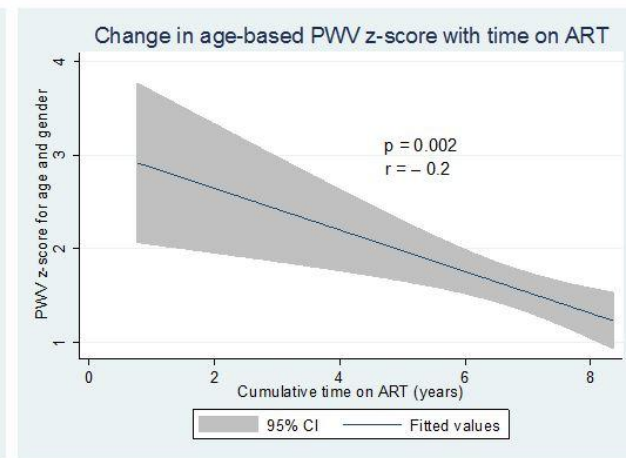
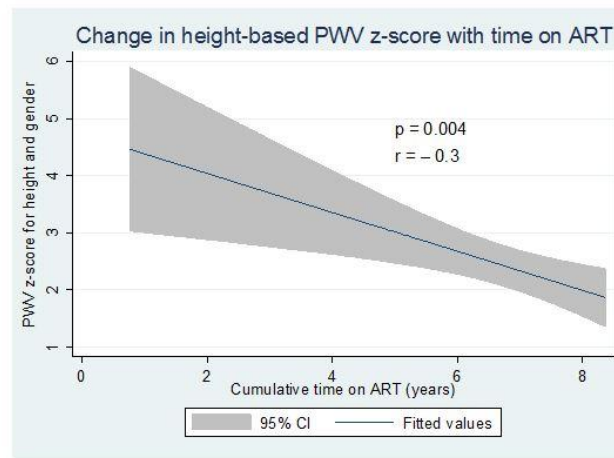
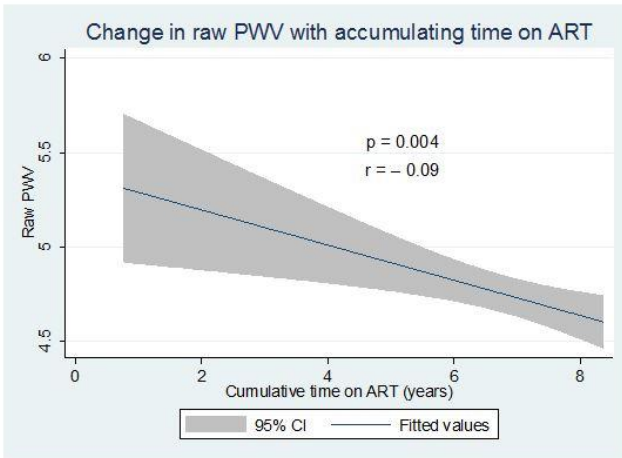
<b><u>Results</u></b> <b>Demographics and clinical characteristics presented as median (interquartile range)</b>	<b>HIV-infected</b> <b>n = 89</b>	<b>Uninfected controls</b> <b>n = 53</b>	<b>Unadjusted p-value (2-tailed)</b>
<b>Age at study visit (years)</b>	<b>7.7 (7.6 – 7.8)</b>	<b>8.5 (7.8 – 8.7)</b>	<b>&lt;0.0001</b>
<b>Gender (male/female)</b>	<b>46% / 54%</b>	<b>60% / 40%</b>	<b>0.10</b>
<b>Cumulative time on ART (years)</b>	<b>7.1 (6.7 – 7.5)</b>	---	---
<b>% with undetectable HIV RNA PCR (&lt;150 c/ml)</b>	<b>91%</b>	---	---
<b>Nadir CD4%</b>	<b>21% (16 – 26%)</b>	---	---
<b>Nadir CD4 (cells/mm<sup>3</sup>)</b>	<b>694 (521 – 871)</b>	---	---
<b>Cumulative months with low CD4 or CD4% <sup>§</sup></b>	<b>3 (0 – 14)</b>	---	---
<b>Current CD4 (cells/mm<sup>3</sup>)</b>	<b>1115 (861 – 1434)</b>	---	---
<b>Maximum WHO clinical stage (1 or 2 / 3 / 4)</b>	<b>10% / 42% / 48%</b>	---	---
<b>Nadir weight-for-age Z-score</b>	<b>-1.7 (-2.5 – -0.8)</b>	<b>-0.8 (-1.5 – 0.1)</b>	<b>0.0007</b>
<b>Nadir height-for-age Z-score</b>	<b>-1.9 (-2.6 – -1.5)</b>	<b>-1.5 (-2.2 – -0.9)</b>	<b>0.11</b>
<b>Nadir weight-for-height Z-score</b>	<b>-0.8 (-2.0 – 0.0)</b>	<b>-0.5 (-1.4 – 0.4)</b>	<b>0.06</b>
<b>Nadir body mass index-for-age Z-score</b>	<b>-0.6 (-1.8 – -0.1)</b>	<b>-0.6 (-1.3 – -0.1)</b>	<b>0.21</b>

<sup>§</sup> Low CD4 or CD4% was defined as CD4<1000 or CD4%<25% for <12 months of age; CD4 <750 or CD4% <20% for 12-35months of age; CD4 <500 or CD4% <20% for >36months of age



<u>Results continued</u> Demographics and clinical characteristics presented as median (interquartile range)	HIV-infected n = 89	Uninfected controls n = 53	Unadjusted p-value (2-tailed)
Current weight-for-age Z-score	-0.4 (-1.0 – +0.3)	-0.2 (-1.0 – +1.1)	0.13
Current height-for-age Z-score	-0.8 (-1.3 – 0.1)	-0.4 (-1.1 – +0.3)	0.12
Current body mass index-for-age Z-score	0.1 (-0.5 – 0.7)	0.0 (-0.5 – 1.2)	0.26
Waist circumference to height ratio	0.5 (0.4 – 0.5)	0.5 (0.4 – 0.5)	0.48
Systolic blood pressure (mmHg)	96 (90 – 100)	96 (92 – 105)	0.10
Total cholesterol (mmol/L)	4.2 (3.7 – 4.8)	3.5 (3.0 – 4.0)	<0.0001
Triglycerides (mmol/L)	0.8 (0.7 – 1.2)	0.6 (0.4 – 0.7)	<0.0001
Triglyceride to HDL cholesterol ratio	0.7 (0.5 – 1.0)	0.4 (0.3 – 0.7)	<0.0001
LDL cholesterol (mmol/L)	2.5 (2.0 – 2.9)	1.9 (1.5 – 2.4)	<0.0001
Glycosylated hemoglobin (%)	5.4% (5.2 – 5.7%)	5.8% (5.5 – 6.0%)	0.11

# Despite substantial dyslipidemia in HIV-infected children, all PWV measures *improved* with increasing time on ART



PWV measures remained static with increasing age in uninfected controls, but *improved* with age in HIV-infected children