Annex II:

Supplementary Table 2: Excluded studies with reasons

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| **Study ID** | **Country** | **Reason For Exclusion** |
| Liu KC , 2014 ([1](#_ENREF_1)) | South Africa and Zambia | No Comparative group  Data from un exposed group is missing  have missed nonviable  anomalies  examinations by midwives was not validated for proficiency to detect  congenital anomalies, and so birth defects may be underestimated. |
| Ajibola G ([2](#_ENREF_2)) | Botswana | Indirectness of evidence from cotrimoxazole vs. placebo study  Week Statistical Analysis |
| Bussmann, Hermann, 2013  ([3](#_ENREF_3)) | Botswana | Very small sample size 22 people unable to detect the effect  problem on design |
| Mugo NR([4](#_ENREF_4)) | Kenya | Only look in to a single HAART |
| Assaye, 2011 ([5](#_ENREF_5)) | Ethiopia | Didn’t directly measure birth outcome  No comparison group  NP ART Group  Indirectness of the finding |
| Et.al 2011([6](#_ENREF_6)). | Nigeria | Only look in to single CA  Based on case series |
| Jeffrey S. A. Stringer, 2013 ([7](#_ENREF_7)) | Cameroon, Cote D'Ivoire, South Africa, and Zambia | Outcome is measured after 2 years  Indirectness of the finding |
| Liu, K. C. et.al 2014 ([1](#_ENREF_1)) | Zambia, South Africa | No comparison group,  Confounders were not controlled |
| White A,1997 ([8](#_ENREF_8)) | Norway | Indirectness of the finding  Non intervention group not well ascertained |
| Watts DH 2007([9](#_ENREF_9)) | USA | No comparison group |
| Watts DH 2011([10](#_ENREF_10)) | USA | Compares first trimester with 3rd not among exposed not exposed |
| Thorne C, 2005([11](#_ENREF_11)) | Expert Opinion | Indirectness of evidence |
| Roberts SS ([12](#_ENREF_12)) | USA | Comparison group is different from exposed group (have different exposure status ) |
| Wang L, 2013([13](#_ENREF_13)) | Systematic review | Systematic Review |
| Ekouevi DK, 2011([14](#_ENREF_14)) | Cote d'Ivoire | Outcome on congenital anomalies was zero due to small sample size |
| Florida M 2013([15](#_ENREF_15)) | Italy | Comparison between transmission and Ethnicity than ART exposure |
| Hsu HE, 2011 ([16](#_ENREF_16)) | USA | Data is based on rate and data is reported based on projected Rate than actual finding |
| Nielsen-Saines K, 2012([17](#_ENREF_17)) | India, Thailand, Brazil | Small sample size (Small data in each group) |
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| Cressey TR, 2012 ([18](#_ENREF_18)) | International (USA) | small Sample size (25), Outcome zero |
| Manosuthi W, 2004 ([19](#_ENREF_19)) | Thailand | small Sample size (29 VS 24 in the exposed and control group) |
| Jibril M , 2013([20](#_ENREF_20)) | Nigeria | Small Sample to detect meaningful outcome (only 2 cases) |
| Jungmann EM, 2001([21](#_ENREF_21)) | UK, London | Small Sample to detect meaningful outcome (only 9 cases)  Non specificity (ART +foliate antagonists) |
| Tudor AM , 2014 ([22](#_ENREF_22)) | Romania | No Control Group |
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