Sustaining adherence to antiretroviral therapy among HIV/AIDS patients in Uganda
Ssewaya, A.

Citation for published version (APA):
Acknowledgements

In my case, producing a PhD Thesis has been the product of a long journey of struggle, especially given the history of Uganda that was characterised by decay in the education system, deprivation, and competing demands. If I have been able to look further, I have stood on the shoulders of others, and if I have walked farthest, I have been in the company of others. I am grateful to God on whose protection, providence, and guidance I have abundantly thrived. I am grateful to my paternal aunt, Specioza Nakate, whose labour and will provided me with the foundation to achieve. May her soul rest in eternal peace. I am grateful to the members of my family and my family friends, especially Mr Expedite Lukoma, Mr and Mrs Vincent Muyaya, Peter Bwanika and Costa Namirembe, Edward Senkungu, the family of Mrs Sarah Muwaire and the late Gusta Muwayire, Regina Nabutunda, and my brothers and sisters for supporting me since I was a little boy. I am highly indebted to Monsignor Charles Kato for the moral, spiritual, and financial support extended to me and our entire family network.

Special thanks to my wife Maria Mwesiga Ssewaya for her moral support and to my children, Specioza Nakate, Adriano Ssekyennyi, and Marcellus Ssezooba.

I have special friends who have always accorded me all the necessary support whenever I needed it. I am indebted to Dr Robert Kabumbuli, Dr Narathius Asingwire, Dr Igeme Katagwa, Engineer Herbert Kibuuka, Engineer Patrick Batumbya, and Engineer Kabanga, Mr Gusta Kayinja, Mr Remmy Ssenkusu, Mr George William Luboobi, and Mr Paul Mukasa

I am grateful to the Makerere University for Administration for their Policy of Staff Development and for technical support. Special thanks go to the teaching staff in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology for having shouldered the teaching workload while the majority of staff was pursuing doctoral studies. Special thanks to Christine Kisamba-Mugerwa, Associate Professor Dr Peter Atekyereza, and Professor Dr Edward Kirumira for having continuously supported the process of human resource development in the Sociology Department. I am indebted to Dr Mbaaga Kakinda (formerly at Makerere University) for his support; and Dr David Kyaddondo for having shared his qualitative research literature with me.

I have had the freedom to seek answers to my research questions from various disciplines. I owe this freedom to my promoters and readers. Prof. Hardon at
Amsterdam Institute of Social Science Research (AISSR) has accorded me all the necessary technical and emotional support I needed. In the same way, I am extremely grateful Prof. Kirumira (Makerere University) for providing valuable technical input. Thanks also go to my third promoter, Dr E.R. Heerdink, who extensively read my quantitative Chapters, commuting from Utrecht to Amsterdam to find me to discuss comments on those cold wintry days. Not being a statistician, I have greatly benefited from my statistician Mr Ibrahim Lutalo (Makerere University Institute of Public Health). Special thanks also go to Dr John Kinsman, Sweden, who has been my ‘PhD Buddy’ and who has read and strictly marked factual and editorial errors. I am grateful to the three editors: Mr Amal Chatterjee who edited the first draft; Zoe Goldstein who provided both editorial and technical comments on the final draft, and Miriam McCabe who edited the final version.

I am indebted to the academic staff at the University of Amsterdam who introduced me to Medical Anthropology during my first formative year there. I am grateful to Associate Professor Dr Eileen Moyer for the introductory course on HIV/AIDS and for granting me unrestricted access to her personal library. Dr Diana Gibson (left for University of Cape Town, South Africa) ably conducted the Research Methods class and discussed our draft proposals. I benefited from Prof. Dr Sjaak van der Geest, who always joined the AIDS Club when we presented and discussed our PhD work. Prof. Dr Susan Whyte at the University of Copenhagen always read my draft work whenever she came to Uganda and extended kind comments. Dr Richard Laing, at the WHO in Geneva, gave me feedback on Chapter 3 of the thesis and also facilitated my travel to Marseille (France) to present Chapter 4 at the AIDS conference. As an AIDS class we also benefited from candid and valuable comments from Dr Deborah Posel with her either coming to the University of Amsterdam or us going to the University of Cape Town. Thanks to Dr Kala Abermeyer in the WHO, for her comments on our 8 month papers. Thanks to Josien de Klerk for her encouragement and support when I had just arrived in Amsterdam, and for her acceptance to be my paranymphs together with George Tiendrebeogo. Kerren and Willem in Amsterdam hosted me in a homely environment upon my arrival in Amsterdam City.

Many thanks go to the entire AISSR secretariat for their efficient administration: Dr José Komen and Dr Hans Sonneveld for taking care of my welfare as a PhD student. Special thanks to Nicole Schulp (and later Rosemary Both) for her efficient administrative skills and cordial relationship. Many thanks to Anneke Dammers, Teun Bijvoet, Miriam May, and Hermance Mettrop. Special thanks to Anneke for having guided us in Amsterdam, helping us to find the immigration office and
Acknowledgements

accommodation. I am grateful to the Dutch Foreign Ministry for having granted the PhD scholarship.

Being a project PhD, I have enjoyed the company, support, and contribution of fellow PhD students, George Tiendrebeogo, Margaret Kyakuwa, Pride Linda, Sander Leusenkamp, Imitaz Sheik, Sakhumzi Mfecane, and Daniel Reijer. George and his wife Suzan always hosted me at their home and also took me to the North Sea to ease the tension and pressure associated with pursuing a PhD in a foreign country.

Lastly, I am extremely grateful to the staff in charge of Mbuya Reach Out and Kayunga Hospital. The Patron and the Founder of Reach Out Mbuya, Rev. Fr. Joseph Archetti, and the First and Second Directors Margrethe Juncker and Dr Stella Talisuna Alamo for having granted me permission to conduct research at that ART site. I am grateful to the entire staff of Reach Out Mbuya, specifically Dr Charles Namiti, Joseph Ntale, Francis Onyango, Bwire Steven, Katumba Fred, and Elly Sebyatika. In the same way, I am grateful to the administration of the second study site at Kayunga Hospital – Dr Ahmed Matovu, the Medical Superintendent, and his Assistant Salim Kivejinja, and Sr Ssebunya. The HIV Clinic staff, Dr Connie Namajji, Sr Olive Nabachwa, Sr Robina Kataabu, Sr Medina Namakula, and Sr Najjuka accorded me all the necessary support throughout the entire period of my research. I am indebted to the patients themselves for being open about sensitive issues. Special thanks to my Research Assistants, Deborah Mwangu, Janet Naiga, Anna Namujju, Jude Musoke, Edward Jjuuko, and Patrick Ssempungu. In particular, I am grateful to Deborah Mwangu who repeatedly returned to the two study sites in order to update the pill-count data long after the actual survey had ended.

God bless you all.