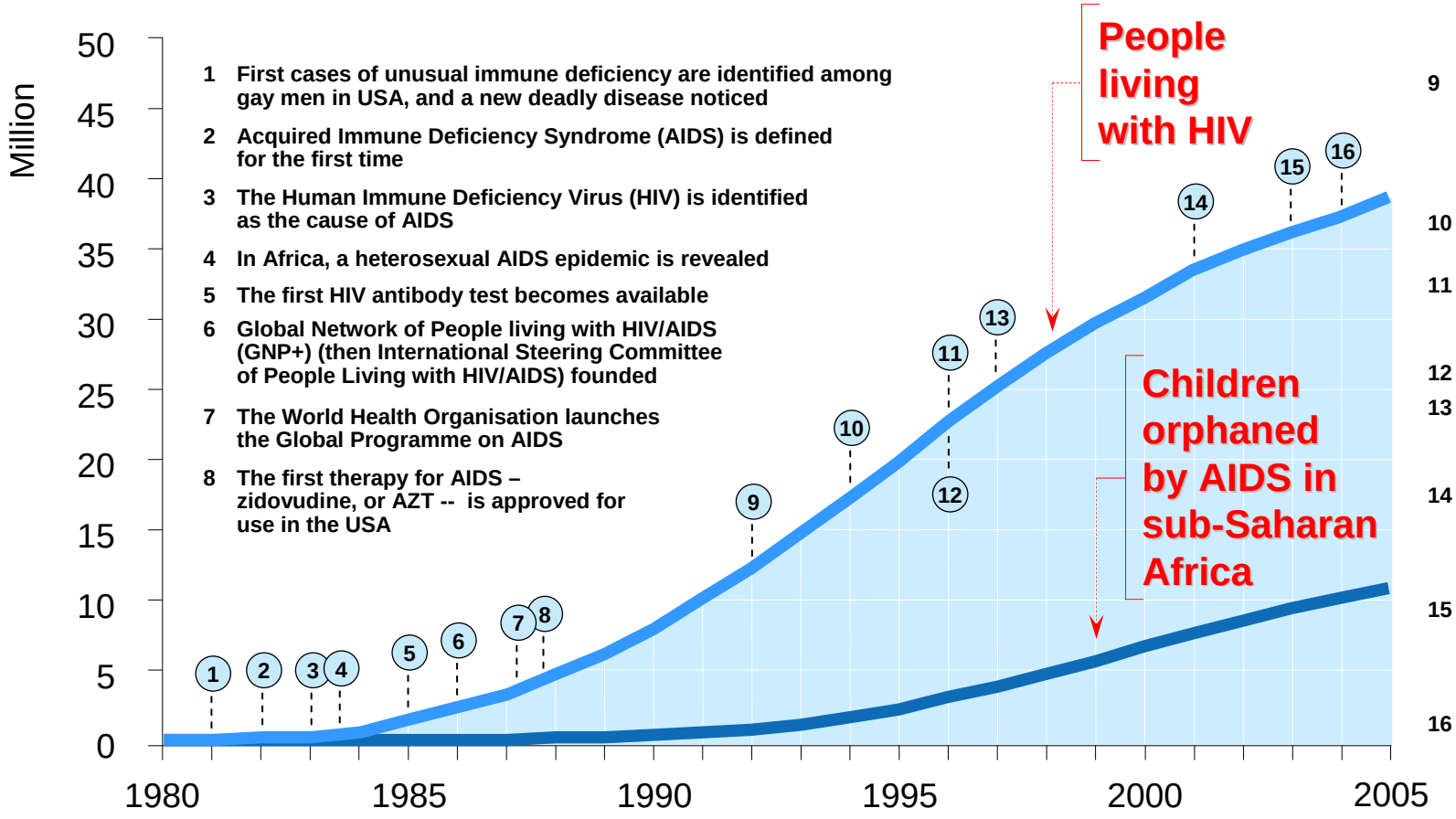
25 years of AIDS



1 First cases of unusual immune deficiency are identified among gay men in USA, and a new deadly disease noticed

2 Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is defined for the first time

3 The Human Immune Deficiency Virus (HIV) is identified as the cause of AIDS

4 In Africa, a heterosexual AIDS epidemic is revealed

5 The first HIV antibody test becomes available

6 Global Network of People living with HIV/AIDS (GNP+) (then International Steering Committee of People Living with HIV/AIDS) founded

7 The World Health Organisation launches the Global Programme on AIDS

8 The first therapy for AIDS – zidovudine, or AZT -- is approved for use in the USA

9 In 1991-1993, HIV prevalence in young pregnant women in Uganda and in young men in Thailand begins to decrease, the first major downturns in the epidemic in developing countries

10 Highly Active Antiretroviral Treatment launched

11 Scientists develop the first treatment regimen to reduce mother-to-child transmission of HIV

12 UNAIDS is created

13 Brazil becomes the first developing country to provide antiretroviral therapy through its public health system

14 The UN General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS. Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria launched

15 WHO and UNAIDS launch the "3 x 5" initiative with the goal of reaching 3 million people in developing world with ART by 2005

16 Global Coalition on Women and AIDS launched

2006 Report on the global AIDS epidemic
Fig 1.1