

## Treating HIV in 2018— Interactive Cases From the Clinic(ians)

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Birmingham, Alabama

IAS-USA

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### Learning Objectives

After attending this presentation, learners will be able to select antiretroviral therapy in patients who:

- Are starting initial therapy
- Have persistently low-level viremia
- Have a baseline M184V mutation
- Are pregnant
- Are eligible for PrEP

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### Question

What regimen should I  
use as initial therapy?

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### Case 1

- 48 yo Male presents with newly diagnosed HIV infection
- Asymptomatic
- **Initial:** HIV RNA 28,000 c/ml  
CD4 count 650 cells/ul
- Other labs are normal; HLA-B57 positive
- Genotype is Wild-type virus
- No prior medical history. Normal renal function
- Ok to start therapy if you think he should

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### ARS Question 1: At this point which regimen would you choose?

1. TDF / 3TC / low dose (400mg) EFV (fdc; [generic](#))
2. DTG / 3TC (fdc)
3. ABC/ 3TC / DTG (fdc)
4. TAF/ FTC (fdc) + DTG
5. TAF / FTC/ ELV / co bi (fdc)
6. TAF/ FTC / BIC (fdc)
7. TAF / FTC (fdc) + RAL (once daily)
8. TAF / FTC / RPV (fdc)
9. TAF/ FTC (fdc) + DRV/r (or co bi / fdc)
10. Some other option (e.g., DRV/r + DTG or ...)

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**AIDSinfo** OFFERING INFORMATION ON HIV/AIDS  
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## Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in Adults and Adolescents Living with HIV

Home > Guidelines > Adult and Adolescent ARV

The information in the brief version is excerpted directly from the full-text guidelines. The brief version is a compilation of the tables and boxed recommendations.

Enter Search Term(s)

### What's New in the Guidelines?

Panel Roster  
Financial Disclosure  
Introduction  
Baseline Evaluation  
Laboratory Testing

#### What's New in the Guidelines?

Last Updated: October 25, 2018; Last Reviewed: October 25, 2018

##### Resistance Testing

New information has been added regarding the use of HIV-1 proviral DNA genotypic resistance tests to identify drug resistance mutations, especially in the setting of low-level viremia or when plasma HIV RNA is below the limit of detection. The section now includes a discussion on the benefits and limitations of these tests.

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JAMA | Special Communication

Antiretroviral Drugs for Treatment and Prevention of HIV Infection in Adults

2018 Recommendations of the International Antiviral Society-USA Panel

Michael S. Saag, MD, Constance A. Benson, MD, Rajesh T. Gandhi, MD, Jennifer F. Hoy, MBBS, Raphael J. Landauer, MD, Michael J. Hargrett, MD, MHC, Paul E. Sax, MD, Doreen M. Smith, MD, Melaine A. Thompson, MD, Susan F. Buchbinder, MD, Carlos del Rio, MD, Joseph J. Eron Jr, MD, Gerald Folb, MD, Haidich A. Gire, MD, Juan Michel Molina, MD, Donna M. Jacobsen, BS, Paul A. Volberding, MD

IMPORTANCE

Antiretroviral therapy (ART) is the cornerstone of prevention and management of HIV infection.

Editorial page 1

Author Audio Interview

Related article page 1

Saag MS, Benson CA, Gandhi RT, et al. Antiretroviral drugs for treatment and prevention of HIV infection in adults: 2018 recommendations of the International Antiviral Society-USA Panel. *JAMA*. 2018;320(4):1-18.

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Recommended Initial Regimens: InSTI Plus 2 nRTIs

- Bictegravir/TAF/emtricitabine
- Dolutegravir/abacavir/lamivudine
- Dolutegravir plus TAF/emtricitabine
- (Raltegravir plus tenofovir / emtricitabine)\*

\*HHS Guidelines; AIDInfo

Saag, Benson, Gandhi, et al. *JAMA*, 2018

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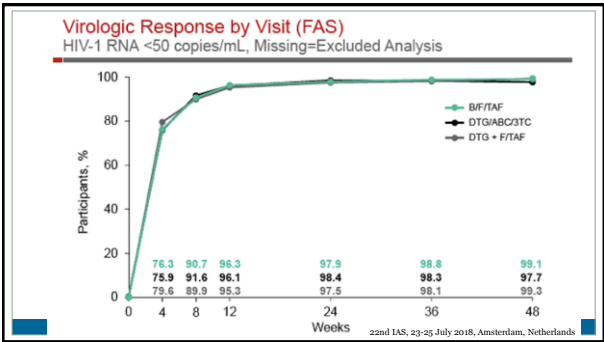
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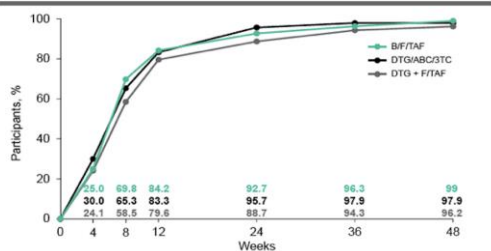
### Case 2

- 48 yo Male presents with newly diagnosed HIV infection
- Asymptomatic except for weight loss / fatigue
- Initial: HIV RNA 760,000 c/ml  
CD4 count 21 cells/ul
- Other labs are normal; HLA-B57 negative
- Genotype is Wild-type virus
- No prior past medical history. Normal renal function
- Ok to start therapy if you think he should

### ARS Question 2: At this point which regimen would you choose?

1. TDF / 3TC / low dose (400mg) EFV (fdc; [generic](#))
2. DTG / 3TC (fdc)
3. ABC/ 3TC / DTG (fdc)
4. TAF/ FTC (fdc) + DTG
5. TAF / FTC/ ELV / co bi (fdc)
6. TAF/ FTC / BIC (fdc)
7. TAF / FTC (fdc) + RAL (once daily)
8. TAF / FTC / RPV (fdc)
9. TAF/ FTC (fdc) + DRV/r (or co bi / fdc)
10. Some other option (e.g., DRV/r + DTG or ...)

**Virologic Efficacy:**  
HIV-1 RNA <50 copies/mL, Missing=Excluded Analysis  
Baseline HIV-1 RNA >100,000 copies/mL



## Recommended Initial Regimens: If an InSTI Is Not Available

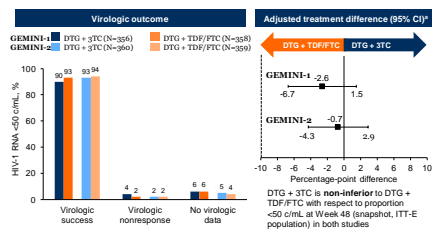
- Darunavir/cobicistat/TAF (or TDF)/emtricitabine\*
- Darunavir boosted with ritonavir plus TAF (or TDF)/emtricitabine
- Efavirenz/TDF/emtricitabine
- Elvitegravir/cobicistat/TAF (or TDF)/emtricitabine
- Raltegravir plus TAF (or TDF)/emtricitabine
- Rilpivirine/TAF (or TDF)/emtricitabine (if pretreatment HIV RNA level is <100,000 c/mL and CD4 cell count is >200/μL)
- Fixed-dose Dor/TDF/3TC tablet approved July 2018

HHS Guidelines: Saag, Benson, Gandhi, et al. JAMA. 2018.

## ARS Question 3: Would you use DTG / 3TC as initial therapy?

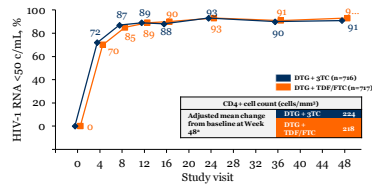
1. Yes
2. No
3. Not sure

## Snapshot Outcomes at Week 48 for GEMINI-1 and -2



22nd International AIDS Conference, July 23-27, 2018, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

### Snapshot Analysis by Visit: Pooled ITT-E Population

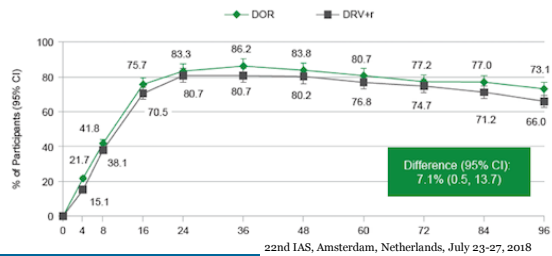


\*Calculated from a repeated measures model adjusting for study, treatment, visit (repeated factor), baseline plasma HIV-1 RNA, baseline CD4+ cell count, treatment and visit interaction, and baseline CD4+ cell count and visit interaction.

Cahn et al. AIDS 2018; Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Slides TUA20108.B

22nd International AIDS Conference; July 23-27, 2018; Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Figure 3. Proportion of Participants With HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL\*



22nd IAS, Amsterdam, Netherlands, July 23-27, 2018

	HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL, % (N)		Treatment difference (%) [95% CI]
	DOR	DRV+r	
All Participants	81.0 (342)	76.8 (323)	
Baseline HIV-1 RNA, c/mL			
≤100,000	85.6 (264)	79.7 (282)	
>100,000	65.4 (78)	65.2 (72)	
≤500,000	81.8 (325)	78.1 (311)	
>500,000	64.7 (17)	36.4 (11)	
Baseline CD4+ T-cell Count, cells/mm <sup>3</sup>			
≤50	80.0 (5)	52.9 (17)	
>50 and ≤200	71.0 (31)	65.8 (38)	
>200	82.0 (306)	79.9 (268)	
NRTI Component			
TDF/FTC	80.3 (295)	76.3 (283)	
ABC/3TC	85.1 (47)	80.0 (40)	

Favors DRV+r Favors DOR

22nd IAS, Amsterdam, Netherlands, July 23-27, 2018

#### ARS Question 4:

Which ARV drug is most likely to cause a 0.1 mg/dl jump in serum creatinine 1 week after starting Rx?

1. Bictegravir
2. Tenofovir DF
3. Tenofovir AF
4. Atazanavir
5. Emtricitabine

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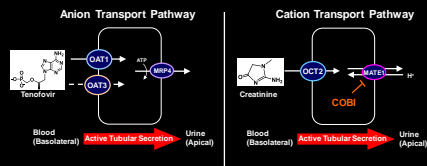
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#### Tenofovir and COBI Interact with Distinct Renal Transport Pathways

Slide 21 of 41



- The active tubular secretion of tenofovir and the effect of COBI on creatinine are mediated by distinct transport pathways in renal proximal tubules

Ray A, et al. Antimicrob Agents Chem 2006;52(7):3304  
Lepist E, et al. JCAAC 2011; Chicago 6A1-1724

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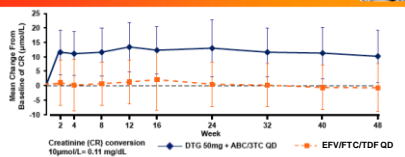
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#### Renal Safety

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Urine albumin/creatinine  
Median change (IGR) from baseline (mg/mmol CR) to Week 48

Treatment Group	Median change (IGR) from baseline (mg/mmol CR) to Week 48
DTG 50 mg+ABC/3TC QD	0.00 (-0.30, 0.30)
EFV/FTC/TDF QD	+0.05 (-0.20, 0.30)

- Small increase in creatinine due to blockade of Cr secretion<sup>1</sup>
- DTG does not affect actual glomerular filtration rate (GFR)<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Koozekan D, et al. Br J Clin Pharmacol. In press 2012 Aug. Wolansky S, et al. J Clin Pharmacol. 2012;52(8):1155-1160.

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### Question

What is likely the best approach to Long-Acting ARV formulations?

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### Case 3 (Long-acting "LA" Agents Available)

- 48 yo Male presents with newly diagnosed HIV infection
- Asymptomatic except for weight loss / fatigue
- Initial: HIV RNA 160,000 c/ml  
CD4 count 221 cells/ul
- Other labs are normal; HLA-B57 negative
- Genotype is Wild-type virus
- No prior past medical history. Normal renal function
- Ok to start therapy if you think he should

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### ARS Question 5: Among the LA agents which type would you choose if or when they become available?

1. Long acting Pill Formulation (1 tab every week)
2. Very long acting Pill Formulation (1 tab every 4 - 8 weeks)
3. Long-acting injectable (1 injection every 2 months)
4. Implantable disc (placed in provider's office q 6 months)
5. Would not use Long-Acting formulations
6. No opinion

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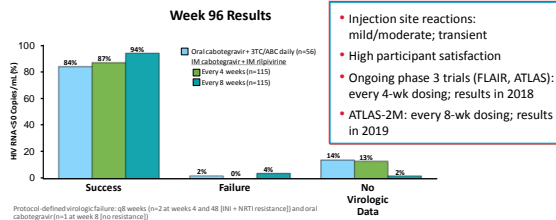
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## LATTE-2: Virologic Outcomes With LA Cabotegravir + Rilpivirine as Maintenance Therapy



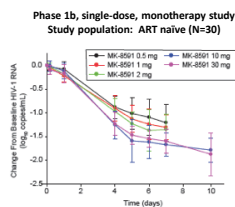
- Injection site reactions: mild/moderate; transient
- High participant satisfaction
- Ongoing phase 3 trials (FLAIR, ATLAS): every 4-wk dosing; results in 2018
- ATLAS-2M: every 8-wk dosing; results in 2019

Bren L, et al. / *J. Infect. Dis.* 2017;215(suppl 4):S107-S108. Abstract MOAB020518. Margolis DA, et al. *Lancet*. 2017;391:21. [Epub ahead of print].

Slide 25 of 70

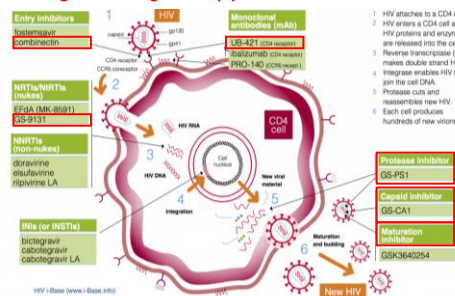
## Long-acting NRTI: MK-8591 (EFdA)

- Nucleoside RT translocation inhibitor (NRTTI)
- Half life of active anabolite:  $\approx$ 80-130 hr
- Humans: single oral dose as low as 0.5 mg suppressed HIV RNA for >7 day
- Study in healthy volunteers: multiple daily doses as low as 0.25 mg expected to lead to HIV suppression
- Phase 2b trial in people with HIV, in combination with DOR and 3TC, has started (DRIVE2Simplify)
  - Daily dosing



Grobler CRO 2017 8435  
Matthews IAS 2017 #1UP08020218  
Matthews BP CRO 2018 426  
<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT03727347>

## Other investigational drugs in the pipeline:



### Question

What regimen should be used as initial therapy when an M184V mutation is present?

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### Case 3

- 30 yo Female presents with newly diagnosed HIV infection
- Asymptomatic
- **Initial:** HIV RNA 128,000 c/ml  
CD4 count 350 cells/ul
- Other labs are normal; HLA-B57 neg
- Genotype shows **M184V and K103N mutation**
- No prior medical history. No children. Does not plan to become pregnant.
- Ok to start therapy if you think she should

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### ARS Question 6: At this point which regimen would you choose?

1. TDF / 3TC / low dose (400mg) EFV (fdc; generic)
2. DTG / 3TC (fdc)
3. ABC/ 3TC / DTG (fdc)
4. TAF/ FTC (fdc) + DTG
5. TAF / FTC/ ELV / cobi (fdc)
6. TAF/ FTC / BIC (fdc)
7. TAF / FTC (fdc) + RAL (once daily)
8. TAF / FTC / RPV (fdc)
9. TAF/ FTC (fdc) + DRV/r (or cobi / fdc)
10. Some other option (e.g., DRV/r + DTG or ...)

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### Question

Seems like we are now starting ARV therapy for about everyone, what about starting therapy immediately at time of diagnosis?

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### Case 4

- 30 yo Male was diagnosed with HIV infection 4 hours ago in the ER
- Asymptomatic
- **Initial:** HIV RNA 17,000 c/ml (HIV DNA positive)  
CD4 count 470 cells/ul
- Other labs are normal; HLA-B57 neg
- Genotype determined from DNA is wild-type
- No prior medical history.
- Ok to start therapy if you think he should

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### ARS Question 7: When would you choose to start therapy?

1. Right now in the ER
2. Within 1 - 2 days (outpt Clinic)
3. In the next 2 weeks (outpt Clinic)
4. Within 2 – 4 weeks
5. Some other option

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### Same Day ART– A Randomized Trial

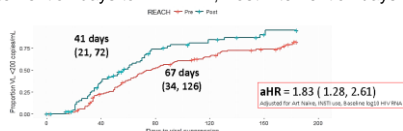
- Home based testing in rural Lesotho
- Newly HIV +, no other chronic conditions requiring care, randomized to usual care vs. same day ART
  - Usual Care: labs, 2 clinic visits → ART
  - Same Day: no labs, 30 days TDF/3TC/EFV
- End Points – 3 month care linkage and % HIV RNA <200 c/mL at 12 months

274 patients	Usual Care	Same Day
% 3 months linked	43	69
% 12 months suppressed	34	50

Labhardt #94

### Expedited ART– Experience in Atlanta

- Grady reduced barriers, with goal to begin ART within 72hrs
- Pre-intervention days to ART = 22, Post-intervention days to ART= 4.



Outcomes	Pre-REACH (n=117)	Post-REACH (n=90)	aOR (95% CI)
Attended 1 <sup>st</sup> scheduled appointment <sup>a</sup>	85 (73)	73 (81)	1.63 (0.82, 3.22)
Achieved viral suppression <sup>b</sup>	87 (74)	61 (68)	0.77 (0.39, 1.52)

<sup>a</sup>Adjusted for age, race, sex and being ART Nave

<sup>b</sup>Adjusted for age, race, baseline HIV RNA & INSTI use

Colasanti #1109

### ARS Question 8:

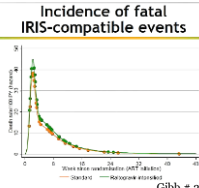
Do InSTIs cause IRIS?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not sure

### Do INSTIs Cause IRIS?

- ART naïve adults/children in Africa, CD4 <100
- Randomized to ART vs. ART + 12 weeks RAL
- IRIS judged by blinded committee based on clinical description and timing with regard to ART

	ART + RAL	ART
Number Subjects	902	933
Mean Baseline CD4	38	36
% Baseline VL > 100k	77	74
Δ VL @ wk 4	- 3.4 L	- 2.7 L
% Mortality @ wk 24	10.9	10.2
# Fatal IRIS	<b>36</b>	<b>31</b>
# All IRIS	<b>89</b>	<b>86</b>



### Question

Should I change a regimen when low level detectable virus is present?

### Case 5

- 55 yo male referred to you for evaluation
- Diagnosed 18 years ago with HIV infection
- **Initial:** HIV RNA 936,000c/ml  
CD4 count 70 cells/ul
- **Current:** HIV RNA 85 c/ml (prior value 62 c/ml)  
CD4 count 525 cells/ul
- Started on NEL/D4T/3TC; subsequently treated with
  - LOP-r / TDF/FTC,
  - EFV/ FTC/ TDF (fdc).
  - Now **DTG / DRV/c / 3TC**
- No historical resistance tests are available

**ARS Question 9: Should you change ARV therapy now?**

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not sure

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**Question**

What regimen should I use as initial therapy in a pregnant patient?

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**Case 6**

- 30 yo woman presents with newly diagnosed HIV infection
- Asymptomatic, 2.5 months pregnant
- **Initial:** HIV RNA 28,000 c/ml  
CD4 count 650 cells/ul
- Other labs are normal; HLA-B57 neg
- Genotype is Wild-type virus
- No prior medical history. First pregnancy
- Ok to start therapy if you think she should

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**ARS Question 10: At this point which regimen would you choose?**

1. TDF / FTC / EFV (fdc)
2. ABC/ 3TC / DTG (fdc)
3. TAF / FTC/ ELV / coBI (fdc)
4. TDF / FTC / RPV (fdc)
5. TAF/ 3TC (fdc) / DTG (fdc)
6. TDF/ FTC (fdc) / DRV/r (or coBI / fdc)
7. TAF/ FTC / ATV/r (or coBI / fdc)
8. TDF / FTC / ATV/r (or coBI / fdc)
9. Some other option

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**TAF PK - Fetus**

- Intracellular concentration of Tenofovir-DP is 4-5 times higher for TAF compared to TDF
- Does this expose the fetus to a higher risk of birth abnormalities?
- Does this lower the risk of vertical transmission?

Andrew Hill, 2016 WHO meeting

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**Dolutegravir in pregnancy: Background**

- No fetal toxicity or teratogenicity in animal studies described in manufacturer's submission for regulatory approval<sup>1</sup>
- High placental transfer of DTG relative to other ARVs in an ex vivo study<sup>2</sup>
- "Unexpected placental transfer of DTG with fetal accumulation and then slow neonatal clearance"<sup>3</sup>
- **18 May 2018: Report of Neural tube defects in 4/426 (0.9%) babies born to women taking DTG in Botswana...compared to 14/11,173 (0.1%) non-DTG<sup>4</sup>**

DOI:10.1056/NEJMc1807553 : 24 July 2018

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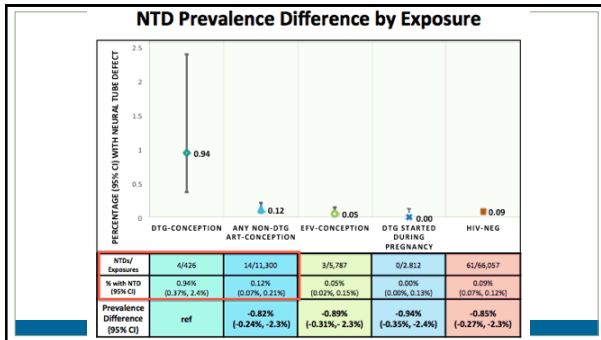
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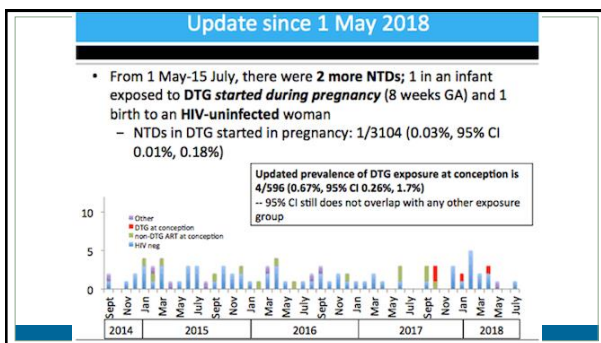
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**ARS Question 11: What prophylaxis should be used in a newly diagnosed patient with CD4 < 50 cells/  $\mu$ L?**

1. TMP / SMX
2. TMP / SMX + azithromycin
3. TMP / SMX + fluconazole
4. TMP / SMX + fluconazole + azithromycin
5. Fluconazole + azitromycin

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### Interface of ART and OIs: OI Prophylaxis

- *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC)
  - Primary MAC prophylaxis not recommended if effective ART is initiated immediately
- *Pneumocystis jirovecii* pneumonia
  - Primary prophylaxis is still recommended for those who meet CD4+ cell count criteria

Saag, Benson, Gandhi, et al, JAMA, 2018.

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### Question

Should I stop abacavir in older patients?

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### Case 7

- 62 yo male started on ARV Rx years ago (resistance history: wild type virus) **returns to you for care after 4 years** (Rx'd elsewhere)
- Has been through several regimens; now on ABC/ 3TC / DTG (fdc)
- **Now:** HIV RNA < 20 c/ml (persistently)
  - CD4 560 cells/ul
  - Cholesterol 180 mg/dl (HDL 52 / LDL 100)
  - Creat 1.3 / eCrCl = 80 cc/min
- Smoker
- PMHx negative (No cardiac history)
- On atorvastatin and daily low-dose ASA

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### ARS Question 12: Besides asking him to quit smoking, what would you do?

1. Continue his current ARV Rx
2. Change his ABC/3TC to TAF / FTC containing Rx
3. Change his ABC/3TC to DRV/rit (continue DTG)
4. Some other option

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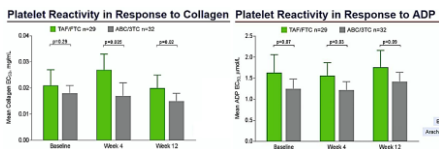
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### ABC → TAF – Effect on Platelets

- 61pts on ABC/3TC containing regimen randomized to continue or to switch to TAF/FTC. Platelet aggregation measured by platelet reactivity



- Switch to TAF/FTC resulted in less reactivity of platelets by collagen assay
- Does this explain possible CV risk associated with ABC? In the Framingham study ADP response was much more predictive for CVD than collagen response (MK Puuminen, JAHA 2018)

Mallon #677LB  
Trial funded by Gilead Sciences, Inc.

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### Question

Should I switch from EFV / FTC / TDF (fdc) in a patient who has been on it for the last 10 years?

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### Case 8

- 55 yo Female referred to you for evaluation
- Diagnosed 14 years ago with HIV infection
- **Initial:** HIV RNA 36,000c/ml  
CD4 count 150 cells/ul
- **Current:** HIV RNA <20 c/ml  
CD4 count 525 cells/ul
- Started on EFV + FTC/ TDF (fdc) in Jan 2004
- Changed to STR in 2006. Only regimen.
- Reports **no symptoms** currently. Creatinine 0.8 (eGFR > 60 cc/min)
- Generally feels well

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### ARS Question 13: At this point you would:

1. Continue her current ARV Rx
2. Change her ARV Rx to generic low-dose (FDC)  
EFV (400mg) / 3TC / TDF
3. Change her ARV Rx to 2 nucs and RPV
4. Change her ARV Rx to 2 nucs and a boosted PI
5. Change her ARV Rx to 2 nucs and an INSTI  
(integrase inhibitor)
6. Something else

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### Question

Should I give PrEP to a sero-negative partner of a successfully treated HIV patient?

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### Case 9

- 45 yo Male makes an appointment to request PrEP
- His partner is HIV positive and has been on successful ARV Rx for 17 years (consistently <50 c/ml)
- Generally feels well
- No significant PMHx
- No medications
- Denies any partners outside of his relationship with his partner

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### ARS Question 14: At this point you would:

1. Prescribe TDF / FTC (fdc) daily
2. Prescribe 2:1:1 (TDF/ FTC) PrEP
  - 2 doses 12 hours prior to anticipated sexual activity
  - Then one dose daily for 2 days
3. Not prescribe PrEP
4. Not sure what to do

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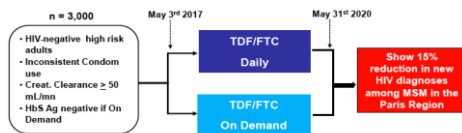
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### Study Design

#### Open-Label Prospective Cohort Study in the Paris Region



- Participants opted for either Daily or On Demand PrEP and could switch regimens
- Follow-up every 3 months with 4th Gen ELISA HIV test and plasma creatinine
- STI screening at physicians' discretion (Guidelines recommend every 3 months in MSM)
- Condoms, gels, risk reduction and adherence counseling, Q on sexual behavior

22nd IAS, Amsterdam, Netherlands, July 25-27, 2018

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<div> <div> <div>Prévenir</div> <div>ANRS</div> </div> <div>Baseline Characteristics</div> </div>			
Characteristics (Median, IQR) or (n, %)	Daily n = 724 (45.4%)	On Demand n = 870 (54.6%)	P-value
Age (years)	36 (30-44)	36 (30-44)	0.10
MSM	708 (98)	865 (99.4)	
Heterosexual men or women	7 (0.1)	5 (0.6)	<.01
Transgender	8 (1.1)	0 (0)	
No regular sex partner	380 (53)	437 (51)	0.41
History of PrEP use	408 (56.5)	515 (59.2)	0.28
Use of Chemsex*	128 (17.7)	124 (14.3)	0.06
No. condomless sex acts in prior 4 weeks	3 (1-8)	2 (0-4)	<.001
No. sexual partners in prior 3 months	15 (7-25)	10 (5-15)	<.001

\* at last sexual intercourse : cocaine, GHB, MDMA, mephedrone.

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<div> <div> <div>Prévenir</div> <div>ANRS</div> </div> <div>HIV Incidence (mITT Analysis)</div> </div>		
Treatment	Follow-Up Pts-years	HIV Incidence per 100 Pts-years (95% CI)
TDF/FTC (Daily)	443	0 (0-0.8)
TDF/FTC (On Demand)	506	0 (0-0.7)

Mean Follow-up in this Open-Label Cohort: 7 months (SD: 4)

Incidence of study discontinuation:  
3.3/100 PY including 1.5/100 PY who discontinued PrEP

85 HIV-infections averted\*

\* assuming an incidence of 9.17/100 PY as observed in the ANRS Ipergay study in Paris

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Question

How should I counsel a patient with undetectable HIV RNA re sexual transmission risk?

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### Case 10

- 48 yo Male presents with newly diagnosed HIV infection
- Asymptomatic except for weight loss / fatigue
- **Initial: HIV RNA 160,000 c/ml**  
**CD4 count 221 cells/ul**
- Other labs are normal; Started on ARV Rx
- Returns for a 3 month follow up visit
- **HIV RNA < 20 c/ml; CD4 390 cells/ul**

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**ARS Qiestopm 15: Assuming he remains undetectable, you tell him that his risk of transmitting HIV to a seroneg partner via sex is:**

1. Zero risk (under these circumstances)
2. Virtually zero risk (no one knows for sure)
3. Very low risk
4. Possible
5. It depends on which ARV regimen he's on
6. C'mon Saag, I don't like this question!

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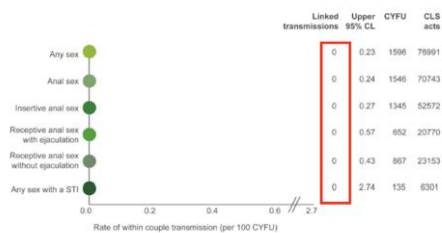
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### Rate of HIV transmission according to sexual behaviour reported by the negative partner




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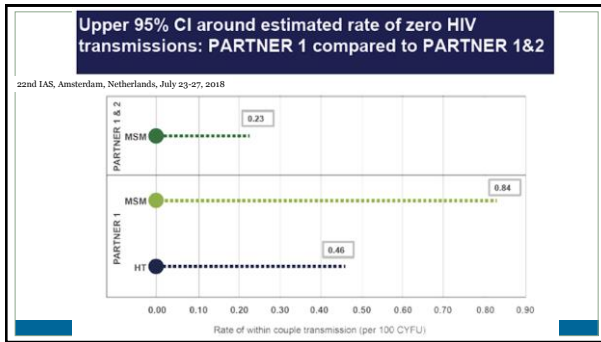
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**U=U: Undetectable=Untransmittable**

**nam aidsmap**  
We're AIDS - saving knowledge, changing lives

"The scientific evidence is clear. Someone whose HIV is undetectable does not pose an infection risk to their sexual partners."

**U=U** Undetectable Equals Untransmittable

New York State Becomes the First State in the U.S. to join U=U  
September 21, 2017

**Department of Health**

**Dear Colleague**  
Information from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
Dear Colleague: September 27, 2017

**U=U**  
A PERSON LIVING WITH HIV WHO HAS AN UNDETECTABLE VIRAL LOAD DOES NOT TRANSMIT THE VIRUS TO THEIR PARTNERS.

<https://www.preventionaccess.org/about>

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**Conclusion**

- Undetectable = Untransmittable (U = U)
- Debate about how soon to initiate ARV Rx after diagnosis of HIV
- Presence of M184V does not effect initial Rx much (except for use of ABC at higher viral load)
- DTG **may be** OK in pregnant women; TAF pending more data. Stay tuned!
- Do not need to change ARV therapy if persistent low level viremia
- 2:1:1 PrEP is an emerging approach for prevention in select populations

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**Question-and-Answer**

IAS-USA

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