

# Interactive ART Case-Based Panel Discussion

**Rajesh T. Gandhi, MD**  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Harvard Medical School  
Boston, Massachusetts

Acknowledgements: Drs. William Short, Sarah Turbett, Virginia Pierce and Robert Goldstein; Delaney Taylor for help with preparing slides



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## Panelists

Constance Benson  
Ronald Mitsuyasu  
Connie Celum  
Eric Daar  
Jeffrey Klausner

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## Learning Objectives

After attending this presentation, learners will be able to:

- Evaluate options for initial treatment of HIV
- Assess regimens for managing drug-resistant HIV
- Summarize potential complications of antiretroviral therapy

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## Case 1: What to Start in a Person with Newly Diagnosed HIV

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### ARS Question 1: What to Start

- 40 yo MSM with fever, sore throat for 1 week. Recent new sexual partner.
- No other medical conditions. Exam normal.
- HIV Ab/Ag positive; HIV differentiation Ab negative; HIV RNA 10 million.
- Pending: creatinine; CD4 cell count; HIV genotype; HLA-B5701.
- He's willing to start treatment.

#### What do you start?

1. Dolutegravir + FTC/tenofovir AF
2. Bictegravir/FTC/TAF
3. Dolutegravir/abacavir/lamivudine
4. Dolutegravir + lamivudine
5. Doravirine/3TC/tenofovir DF
6. Darunavir/cobi/FTC/tenofovir AF
7. Something else

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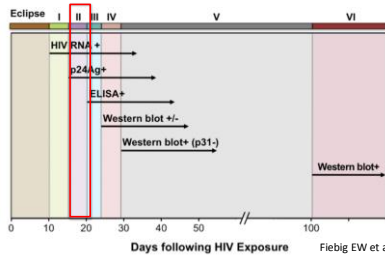
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### Acute HIV Infection: Fiebig Stages



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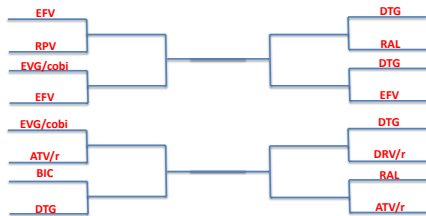
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## Choosing An Initial Regimen



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## First line treatment: Integrase Inhibitor + 2 NRTI

DHHS (10/2018)  
Recommended for Most People with HIV

- Bictegravir/TAF/FTC
- Dolutegravir/abacavir/3TC
- Dolutegravir + TAF/FTC or TDF/FTC
- Raltegravir + TAF/FTC or TDF/FTC

DHHS, <http://aidsinfo.nih.gov/ContentFiles/AdultandAdolescentGI.pdf>, Revision October 25, 2018.

Saag MS, et al. *JAMA*. 2018;320:379-396.

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IAS-USA (7/2018)  
Recommended Initial Regimens

- Bictegravir/TAF/FTC
- Dolutegravir/abacavir/3TC
- Dolutegravir + TAF/FTC
- Fewer long-term safety and efficacy data with BIC than with DTG
- If substantial cost difference, TDF (with FTC/3TC) is effective and generally well-tolerated, esp. if pt not at high risk for bone, renal disease
- Differences between TAF and TDF accentuated when TDF is used with RTV or cobicistat

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## Other Treatment Options When You Don't Think an Integrase Inhibitor is Optimal

- Generic EFV/TDF/3TC
- Rilpivirine/FTC/TDF or Rilpivirine/FTC/TAF
  - Food requirement (about 400 calorie meal)
  - Do not use with proton-pump inhibitor; stagger dosing if on H2 blocker
- Doravirine/3TC/TDF or Doravirine + FTC/TAF
- Darunavir/cobi/FTC/TAF

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## Doravirine (DOR): A New NNRTI

- Active *in vitro* against HIV resistant to first-generation non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTI) (K103N, Y181C, G190A, E101K, E138K)<sup>1</sup>
- Once daily. Low potential for drug interactions
- Phase 3 randomized trials (DRIVE-FORWARD<sup>2</sup>, DRIVE-AHEAD<sup>3,4</sup>): DOR non-inferior to darunavir/ritonavir and efavirenz in virologic suppression
  - DOR: better lipid effects than DRV/r; fewer neuropsychiatric effects than EFV
- In switch study (DRIVE-SHIFT)<sup>5</sup>, changing to DOR/3TC/TDF non-inferior to continuing baseline ART
- DOR available alone and coformulated with TDF/3TC
- Option for people in whom integrase inhibitor therapy not optimal – eg, frequent multivalent cation use; side effects from integrase inhibitor

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<sup>1</sup>Lai AAC 2014;58:1652-1663. <sup>2</sup>Molina JM, 22<sup>nd</sup> IAC, Abstract LBPE8017. <sup>3</sup>Orkin, IDWeek 2018. Abstr LB1. <sup>4</sup>Orkin, Clin Infect Dis. 2018;66(10). <sup>5</sup>Kumar P. IDWeek 2018. Abstr LB2.

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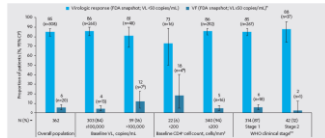
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## Darunavir/cobi/FTC/TAF

- High virologic suppression rate
- High barrier to resistance: no participant in phase 3 AMBER study developed tenofovir or DRV resistance
- Single arm DIAMOND study of rapid initiation (n=109): ~90% virologic suppression rate

Figure 2. AMBER Virologic Outcomes at Week 96 (DA Snapshot) in the D/C/F/TAF Arm by Patient Subgroup (Intent-to-Treat Population).



Huhn GD et al, CROI 2019, abstract 500; Huhn GD et al, 22<sup>nd</sup> International AIDS Conference, WEPEC200

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## ARS Question 2 – Resistance Testing

- 40 yo MSM with fever, sore throat for 1 week. Recent new sexual partner.
  - Exam normal.
  - HIV Ab/Ag positive; HIV differentiation Ab negative; HIV RNA 10 million.
  - In addition to ordering RT/PR genotype, which of the following would you order?
1. HIV Integrase genotype
  2. Trofile
  3. Proviral DNA
  4. Trofile DNA
  5. None of the above
  6. All of the above

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### ARS Question 3: Have you seen a case of transmitted INSTI resistance?

1. Yes
2. No
3. I'm not looking

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Clinical Infectious Diseases

MAJOR ARTICLE



### Should We Be Testing for Baseline Integrase Resistance in Patients Newly Diagnosed With Human Immunodeficiency Virus?

Yvonne Koullas,<sup>1,2</sup> Paul E. Sax,<sup>1,2</sup> Naomi F. Field,<sup>1</sup> Rachelle P. Walensky,<sup>1,2,3,4</sup> and Emily P. Hyatt<sup>1,2</sup>  
Department of Medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Division of Infectious Diseases, Brigham and Women's Hospital, and Medical Practice Evaluation Center, Department of Medicine and Division of Infectious Diseases, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston

- Compared 96-week clinical outcomes and cost-effectiveness of integrase resistance testing in newly diagnosed patients
- **Conclusion:** Integrase resistance testing projected to result in worse outcomes and was not cost effective

Koullas et al, CID, 2017

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Open Forum Infectious Diseases

BRIEF REPORT

### Canary in the Coal Mine? Transmitted Mutations Conferring Resistance to All Integrase Strand Transfer Inhibitors in a Treatment-Naive Patient

Kara S. McGee,<sup>1</sup> Nwona Isaac Okoko,<sup>1</sup> Christopher B. Hunt,<sup>1</sup> and Makhi S. McKellar<sup>1</sup>  
Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, North Carolina, National Center for Global Health and Infectious Diseases, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

- Woman diagnosed with HIV in May 2018
- No previous ART treatment
- Pre-treatment genotype: 3 INSTI mutations: E138A, G140S, and Q148H.
- Sexual partner with HIV had the same mutations. He had previously received RAL and DTG

McGee KS et al, OFID, 2018

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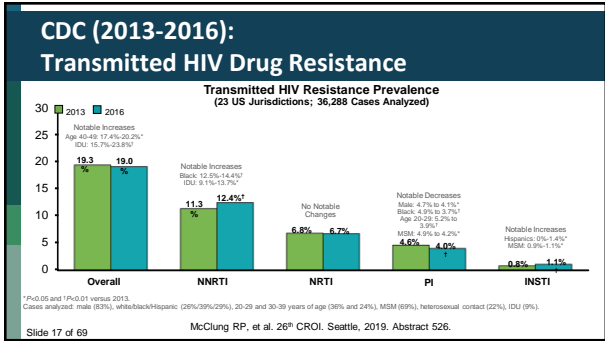
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**Case 2: What to Start in a Person with M184V HIV?**

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### ARS Question 4: What to use in someone with M184V?

- 60 yo M with HIV diagnosed in 1980s
  - CD4 cell count nadir 100
  - AZT monotherapy
  - TDF/FTC/EFV
- Reverse transcriptase genotype: M184I/V, K103N

**Which regimen would you choose?**

- DTG/ABC/3TC
- DTG + FTC/TAF
- BIC/FTC/TAF
- DTG + RPV/FTC/TAF
- DRV/c/FTC/TAF
- Something else

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### Case 3: What regimen to use in someone with virologic failure?

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### What to use in someone with virologic failure?

- 40 yo M with HIV with virologic suppression on DRV/cobi + FTC/TDF. No previous ARV regimens
- Serum creatinine 1.4
- You discuss switching him DRV/cobi + FTC/TAF; he plans to make this change in a few weeks and return for labs in 6 weeks
- Misses 6 week follow up for labs. Comes back about 3 months later
  - HIV RNA **3500** copies/ml. Denies any missed doses
  - You review his medications and he is only taking FTC/TAF (thought it was a new single tablet regimen with all components)

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Case courtesy of William Short, MD

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### ARS Question 5

Would you add back DRV/c right now while awaiting genotype?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not sure

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Case courtesy of William Short, MD

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## Panel

- What resistance mutations do you expect?
- What regimen would you keep him on while awaiting the genotype?

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**Genotype:**  
**K65R, Y115F, M184V**

What regimen would you recommend?

Antiretroviral drug	Resistance Mutations Detected
NRTIs	
3TC (Lamivudine or Emtriva)	1 M0
ABC (Abacavir or Simvastatin)	YES/YES, Y115F, M184V
DDI (Didanosine or Videx)	YES/YES
FTC (Emtricitabine or Emtriva)	YES/M184V
FTC (Emtricitabine or Emtriva)	YES/M184V
FTC (Emtricitabine or Emtriva)	YES/YES
TDF (Tenofovir or Viread)	YES/YES
INSTIs	
RTN (Raltegravir or Isentropin)	1 M0
EVN (Etravirine or Sustiva)	1 M0
DRV (Dolutegravir or Vocabon)	1 M0
RPV (Rilpivirine or Edurant)	1 M0
PIs	
ATV (Atazanavir or Lexiva)	1 M0
DTG (Dolutegravir or Vocabon)	1 M0
RPV (Rilpivirine or Edurant)	1 M0
EVN (Etravirine or Sustiva)	1 M0
DRV (Dolutegravir or Vocabon)	1 M0
ATV (Atazanavir or Lexiva)	1 M0
DTG (Dolutegravir or Vocabon)	1 M0
DRV (Dolutegravir or Vocabon)	1 M0
ATV (Atazanavir or Lexiva)	1 M0
DTG (Dolutegravir or Vocabon)	1 M0
DRV (Dolutegravir or Vocabon)	1 M0
NNRTIs	
EVI (Efavirenz or Sustiva)	1 M0
DTG (Dolutegravir or Vocabon)	1 M0
ATV (Atazanavir or Lexiva)	1 M0
DTG (Dolutegravir or Vocabon)	1 M0
DRV (Dolutegravir or Vocabon)	1 M0
ATV (Atazanavir or Lexiva)	1 M0
DTG (Dolutegravir or Vocabon)	1 M0
DRV (Dolutegravir or Vocabon)	1 M0
PRO • PROBABLE OR EMERGENT RESISTANCE	
OTHER MUTATIONS DETECTED:	
87 SEE MUTATIONS: 500L,501L,503L	
88 SEE MUTATIONS: K101R,143F,171I	

Case courtesy of William Short, MD

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## Follow-up

- Started on DRV/cobi/TAF/FTC plus dolutegravir while genotype results pending
- 4 weeks later, HIV RNA <20
- 3 months later, HIV RNA <20
- 9 months later, HIV RNA <20

Case courtesy of William Short, MD

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**Case 4: What do you do in someone on ART with persistent low-level viremia?**

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**Case**

- 63 yo diagnosed with HIV in the 1990s
- CD4 nadir 180, HIV RNA 60,000 copies/mL
- Multiple regimens in the 1990s; no known drug resistance
- 2010 to 2015: DRV/r + TDF/FTC
- HIV RNA 50-200 copies/mL
- 2015 to present: DTG + FTC/tenofovir
- HIV RNA 40-200 copies/mL
- Reports 100% adherence; does not take other medicines

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**ARS Question 6: What should you do?**

1. Change his ART regimen
2. Intensify his ART regimen
3. Leave him alone
4. Something else

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### Non-suppressible viremia: Viral Replication vs. Cellular Proliferation

Productive Cycles of Viral Replication

Cellular Proliferation (Proviral Expression without Viral Replication)

Proviral Expression

Different Integration Sites and HIV Sequences

Same Integration Sites and Identical HIV Sequences = CLONE

Slide 32 of 69 Halvas E et al, CROI 2019, #23

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### Non-suppressible viremia due to large clones producing HIV particles

- 10 participants; no suspected non-adherence
- Median VL: 98 (range: 43, 378); median duration viremia on ART: 3.2 yr
- Sequencing and integration site analyses:
  - Plasma viremia due to clonal proliferation of CD4 cells carrying replication-competent proviruses (“repliclones”)
  - No evidence for drug resistance, inadequate drug levels
- Implications:
  - Intensification or ART changes would not be effective
  - Repliclones may need to be eliminated to cure HIV

Slide 33 of 69 Halvas E et al, CROI 2019, #23; Also Zhang X et al, CROI 2019, #348

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### Case 5: What should you do in someone who gains weight after starting ART?

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## Case

- 63 yo African American woman diagnosed with HIV in the 1990s
- Previous regimens: TDF/FTC/EFV; DRV/r + ETR + TAF/FTC (because of drug resistant virus)
- Switched to DTG + DRV/r + TAF/FTC
- Gained 40 lb over ensuing 2 years (from 210 lb to 250 lb)
- She asks you if her weight gain is related to her medicines

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## Case—ARS Question 7: Weight Gain and ART

Weight gain is associated with:

1. All antiretroviral regimens
2. Integrase inhibitor-based regimens
3. Protease inhibitor-based regimens
4. Non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor-based regimens
5. The jury is still out

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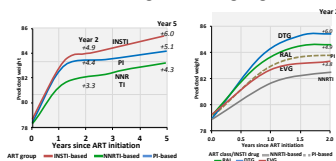
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## Weight Gain and Integrase Inhibitors: Initial Rx

- NA-ACCORD: observational study of 24,001 participants initiating ART
  - INSTIs and PIs associated with greater increase in weight than NNRTI
  - DTG and RAL associated with greater weight gain than EVG



Bourgi K et al, CROI 2019, #670

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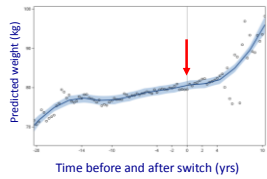
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## Weight Gain & Integrase Inhibitors: Switch study

- ACTG study
  - 972 adults who switched to INSTI-based ART (observational study)
  - Women, blacks and those >60 years had greatest weight gain
  - DTG associated with greatest increase in annual weight (1.0 kg per year compared with 0.5 and -0.2 for EVG and RAL, respectively)



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Lake J et al, CROI 2019, #669

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## Weight Gain and Integrase Inhibitors

- Other recent studies showing association:
  - HOPS: observational switch study
    - BMI trajectory slopes: DTG > RAL or EVG
  - WIHS: observational switch study in women
- Studies showing mixed result or no association
  - TRIO study: associated in bivariate analysis, not in multivariable model
  - HPTN 077: Cabotegravir in people without HIV: no association

Kerchberger A et al, CROI 2019, #672; Pallela FJ et al, CROI 2019, #674; McComsey G et al, CROI 2019, #671; Landovitz R et al, CROI 2019, #34

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## My Take: Is Weight Gain More Common and Significant With INSTI-Based Regimens?

- Accumulating data that INSTI-based regimens may be associated with greater weight gain than some other regimens; randomized data from initial therapy trials needed
- Whether there are differences between INSTIs and the role of NRTIs in the regimen are uncertain
- Mechanism of weight gain and distribution of fat after initiation of modern regimens, including INSTI-based therapies, should be evaluated
- In patients with significant weight gain, the impact of changing to a non-INSTI based regimen needs to be studied

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## Case Follow-up

- 43 yo African American woman diagnosed with HIV in the 1990s
- Previous regimens: TDF/FTC/EFV; DRV/r + ETR + TAF/FTC
- Switched to DTG + DRV/r + TAF/FTC
- Gained 40 lb over the ensuing year (from 210 lb to 250 lb)
- **She asks you if her weight gain is related to her medicines**
- **Over the ensuing 3 months, without changing her ART regimen, she begins to diet and exercise: loses 30 lb!**

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## Surprises

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## Case 7

- 40 yo M with well controlled HIV on ABC/3TC/DTG
- Presented with 6 days of abdominal cramping and diarrhea: 1-3 bowel movements per hour throughout day and night
- Noted blood on toilet paper but not in stool
- Mild chills; temperature 100.7
- Travel: Cape Cod. Ate at cookouts, including salads with mayonnaise
- Three new male sexual partners; oral anal stimulation

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## Recent MGH Cases

- *Shigella sonnei* (group D): resistant to ampicillin, TMP/SMX, azithromycin (>256) and ciprofloxacin (MIC 8); CTX susceptible
  - Patient 1: treated for Giardia, not Shigella
  - Patient 2: treated with cefixime
  - Patient 3: not treated
  - Patient 4: not treated (partner also infected)
- *Shigella flexneri* (group B): resistant to amp, susceptible to TMP/SMX, cipro MIC 0.12
  - Patient 5: not treated

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## Case 9: Pulmonary and Hepatic Nodules in a Man with HIV

- Middle-aged man with HIV
- CD4 count >500, VL <50 for many years on TDF/FTC + ATV/r
- Patient presented with 3-4 weeks of abdominal pain and chest wall discomfort
- Admitted to outside hospital for evaluation of chest discomfort. Found to have pulmonary nodules and rim-enhancing lesions in the liver

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## Case - continued

- Past medical history: secondary syphilis several years ago, s/p treatment; non-reactive RPR 4 months prior to presentation
- Multiple sexual partners, does not always use condoms. No TB exposures.
- Afebrile. No rash or adenopathy. No abdominal tenderness, HSM
- AP 695. ALT 119. AST 70. Bilirubin 2.5/0.3 (LFTs had been normal 4 months ago)

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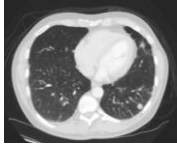
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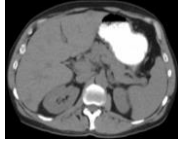
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## Question: What is the diagnosis?

1. Malignancy
2. Syphilis
3. Peliosis hepatis (Bartonella)
4. Fungal infection
5. Mycobacterial infection



Multiple pulmonary nodules, measuring 2-10 mm



Multiple rim-enhancing lesions in the liver

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## Tests

- Blood cultures negative.
- Cryptococcal antigen negative
- Urine histoplasma antigen negative
- Serologic testing for Bartonella, Brucella, Coxiella negative
- Interferon-gamma release assay negative
- HIV RNA undetectable. CD4 cell count 500
- HCV RNA undetectable. HCV Ab negative

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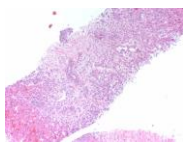
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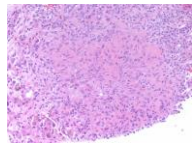
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## Liver biopsy

- Periportal inflammation and edema; granulomas; microbiologic stains negative



Periportal inflammation and edema



Granuloma

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Slides courtesy of Dr. Joseph Misdraji, Mass. General

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## Follow-up

- RPR + 1:64
- Treated with 3 weekly shots of IM penicillin
- AP declined from 695 to normal
- ALT declined from 119 to normal
- Repeating imaging revealed markedly decreased size of pulmonary nodules and liver lesions!

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## Syphilitic hepatitis

- LFT abnormalities may occur during secondary syphilis
- AP may be disproportionately elevated, but not always
  - In one series, median AP 186 (129-1836), median ALT 105 (82-614)
  - LFTs normalized after penicillin (within 5 d to 3 mo.)
- Pathology: pericholangiolar inflammation, periportal hepatocyte necrosis; spirochetes seen on liver biopsy in some but not all cases
- Rare cases of hepatic gumma mimicking cancer reported

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Crum-Cianifone N et al Int J STD AIDS, 2009. Mullick CJ et al. CID, 2004. Shim H.J. World J Hepatol, 2010

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## Take home points



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### Take Home Points

- Integrase inhibitor-based regimens optimal for most people with HIV; newer NNRTI- and PI-based therapies are good alternatives
- Transmitted integrase inhibitor resistance uncommon; monitoring needed
- Most people with M184V HIV will have virologic suppression on 2 NRTI + dolutegravir (and probably bictegravir) as long as there is active NRTI
- Stable low-level viremia in people on ART may not represent ongoing viral replication
- CDC has updated its guidance on diagnosing and managing Shigella
- Look out for unusual manifestations of syphilis: #itsalwaysssyphilis

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### Extra Case

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IAS-USA

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**Case: When should you use a 2-drug regimen for initial therapy?**

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### ARS Question: Two-drug therapy

- 50 yo HIV+ M with diabetes, hypertension, chronic renal insufficiency (creatinine clearance of 25)
  - HIV RNA 30,000, CD4 cell count 450
  - HLA-B5701 positive
  - You want to choose a regimen that avoids TAF, TDF, ABC
1. Darunavir/cobicistat + FTC
  2. Darunavir/ritonavir + raltegravir
  3. Darunavir/ritonavir + dolutegravir
  4. Darunavir/ritonavir + 3TC
  5. Dolutegravir + 3TC
  6. Dolutegravir + rilpivirine
  7. Atazanavir + elvitegravir/cobicistat

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### NRTI-limiting Regimens for Initial Therapy

- **DRV/r + RAL (NEAT001)<sup>1,2</sup>**
  - Non-inferior to DRV/r + TDF/FTC
  - CD4 <200: DRV/r + RAL inferior to DRV/r + 2 NRTI
  - VL >100 K: more failures with DRV/r + RAL
- **DRV/r + 3TC<sup>3</sup> (ANDES)**
  - Non-inferior to DRV/r + FTC/TDF (n=145)

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<sup>1</sup>Raffi F et al, Lancet, 2016; <sup>2</sup>Lambert-Niclot S et al, J Antimicrob Chemother, 2016; <sup>3</sup>Figueroa et al, CROI 2018, Abstract 489

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### NRTI-limiting Regimens for Initial Therapy

- **DTG + 3TC**
  - Non-inferior to DTG + TDF/FTC (GEMINI-1 and -2)
- **Long-acting injectable cabotegravir + rilpivirine (after virologic suppression on oral therapy)**
  - Non-inferior to oral ART (FLAIR)

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## My take: Are 2-Drug Regimens Optimal Initial Therapy for Most Persons With HIV?

- For initial therapy, DTG + 3TC looks promising at week 48
  - Single-tablet formulation approved on April 8, 2019 for initial treatment of adults with no known or suspected resistance to its components
    - One pill once daily with or without food
    - Should not be used in people with HIV/HBV (test for HBV)
  - Longer term data awaited before recommended by guidelines for most persons with HIV
- Other NRTI-limiting options for initial therapy
  - DRV/r + RAL (if CD4 count >200, VL <100K); DRV/r + 3TC; in the future, perhaps long-acting cabotegravir + rilpivirine

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## Question-and-Answer

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