

## Interactive ART Cases From the Clinic(ians): Case-Based Panel Discussion

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IAS-USA

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### Panelists

Roy Gulick  
Rajesh Gandhi  
Kristine Erlandson  
Sharon Nachman  
Magdalena Sobieszczyk

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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

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 1

- 30 yo Female 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 she should

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### ARS Question 1: 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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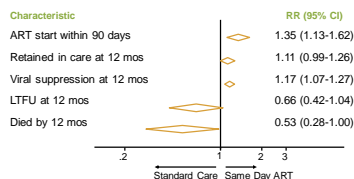
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## Improved Clinical Outcomes With Rapid ART Initiation

- Universal recommendations for treating all HIV-infected persons
- Systematic review of 22 studies of rapid ART initiation (including 4 RCTs)

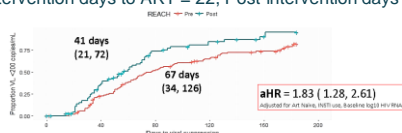


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Ford N, et al. AIDS. 2018;32:17-23.

## 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* | 85 (73)           | 73 (81)           | 1.63 (0.82, 3.22) |
| Achieved viral suppression*                     | 87 (74)           | 61 (68)           | 0.77 (0.39, 1.52) |

\*Adjusted for age, race, sex and being ART Naïve

\*Adjusted for age, race, baseline HIV RNA & INSTI use

Colasanti #1109

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## Question

What regimen should I use as initial therapy?

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## Case 2

- 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 2: At this point which regimen would you choose?

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

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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 C. Hoy, MD, MS, Raphael J. Landovitz, MD, Michael J. Muggeri, MD, MHS, Paul E. Sax, MD, Doreen M. Smith, MD, Melaine A. Thompson, MD, Susan P. Buchbinder, MD, Carlos del Rio, MD, Joseph J. Eron Jr, MD, Gerald Foster-Reuse, MD, Vladimir L. Garfield, MD, Jean 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

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

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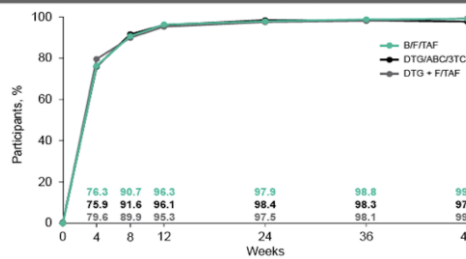
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### Virologic Response by Visit (FAS) HIV-1 RNA <50 copies/mL, Missing=Excluded Analysis



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

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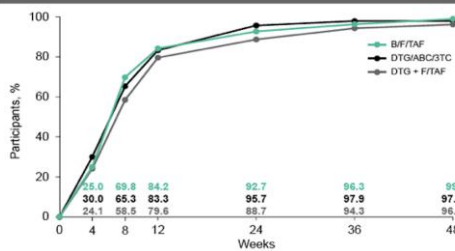
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### Virologic Efficacy: HIV-1 RNA <50 copies/mL, Missing=Excluded Analysis Baseline HIV-1 RNA >100,000 copies/mL



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## 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

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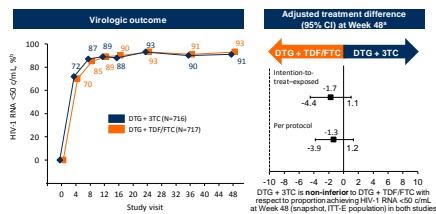
Seag, Benson, Gandhi, et al, JAMA, 2018.

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

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not sure

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## Gemini Studies: DTG plus 3TC vs. DTG plus TDF/FTC in Treatment Naïve patients.

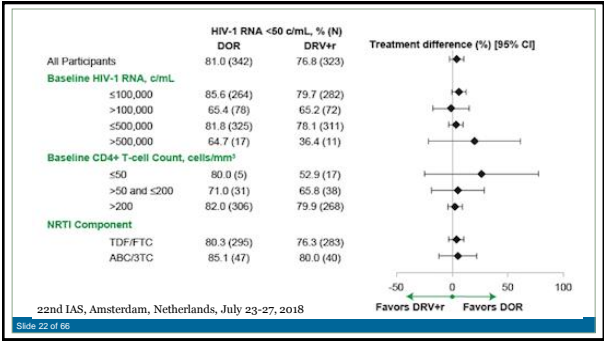
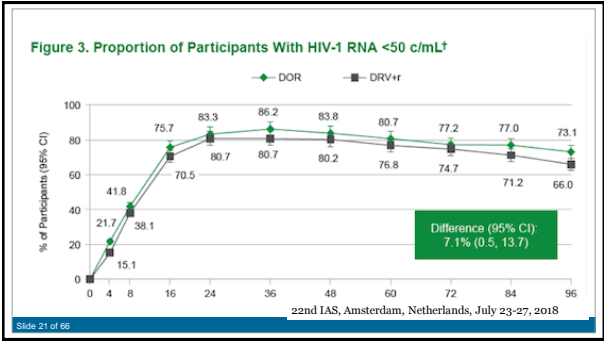
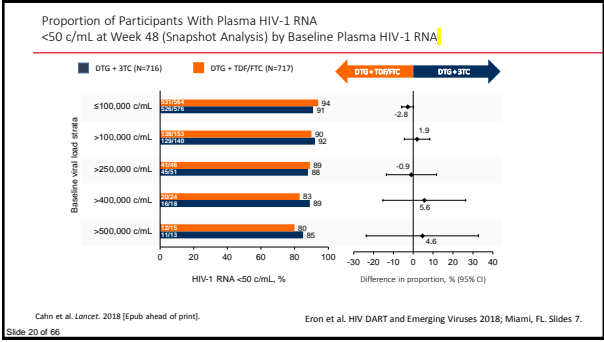


\*Based on Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel stratified analysis adjusting for the following baseline stratification factors: plasma HIV-1 RNA (<100,000 vs >100,000 c/mL) and CD4+ cell count (>200 vs <200 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>). Calculated from a repeated measures model adjusting for study treatment, visit (repeated 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. Lancet. 2018 [Epub ahead of print].

Ernst et al. HIV DART and Emerging Viruses 2018; Miami, FL. Slides 7.

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### Question

Seems like we are now starting ARV therapy for about everyone, what about starting therapy for an **Elite Controller**?

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### Case 3

- 30 yo Female was diagnosed with HIV infection 4 years ago
- Asymptomatic
- **Initial:** HIV RNA < 50 c/ml (HIV DNA positive)  
CD4 count 870 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 she should

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### ARS Question 4: Would you choose to start therapy at this time?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Maybe

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### Question

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

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### Case 4

- 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

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### ARS Question 5: Should you change ARV therapy now?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not sure

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## Virologic Failure, Low Level Viremia, and Blips

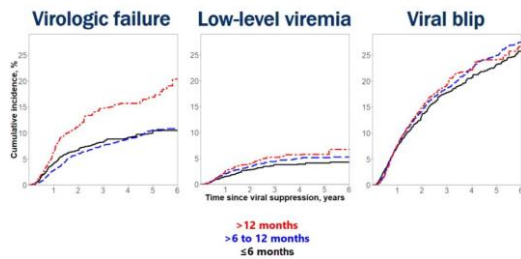
### Clinical characteristics

|                                      | ≤6 months<br>n=5,776 | >6 to 12 months<br>n=6,858 | >12 months<br>n=4,360 |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Pre-ART viral load <i>median</i>     | 28000                | 62457                      | 82713                 |
| Year of ART initiation <i>median</i> | 2011                 | 2011                       | 2011                  |
| ART anchor drug(s)                   |                      |                            |                       |
| NNRTI                                | 40%                  | 50%                        | 46%                   |
| PI                                   | 32%                  | 36%                        | 45%                   |
| InSTI                                | 31%                  | 16%                        | 13%                   |
| CD4 count, cells/μL <i>median</i>    | 440                  | 460                        | 460                   |
| AIDS diagnosis                       | 12%                  | 14%                        | 20%                   |
| Hepatitis B co-infection             | 3%                   | 4%                         | 5%                    |
| Hepatitis C co-infection             | 10%                  | 9%                         | 15%                   |

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Lee, J et al. NA-ACCORD, CROI 2019. Abstr #97

## Virologic Failure, Low Level Viremia, and Blips



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Lee, J et al. NA-ACCORD, CROI 2019. Abstr #97

## Question

What regimen should I use as initial therapy in a women who desires to become pregnant?

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### Case 5

- 30 yo Female who is on ARV Rx informs you she'd like to become pregnant HIV infection
- Asymptomatic; No prior medical history.
- **Initial:** HIV RNA 28,000 c/ml  
CD4 count 650 cells/ul
- Other labs are normal; HLA-B57 neg
- Pre-Rx genotype is Wild-type virus
- She is currently on DTG / ABC / 3TC (fdc) with undetectable HIV RNA

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### ARS Question 6: At this point you would...

1. **Keep her on her current Rx (ABC/ 3TC / DTG)**  
**Or Switch her to:**
2. TDF / FTC / EFV (fdc)
3. TAF / FTC/ ELV / coBI (fdc)
4. TDF / FTC / RPV (fdc)
5. TDF/ FTC (fdc) / DRV/r
6. TAF/ FTC / ATV/r
7. TDF / FTC / ATV/r
8. Some other option

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### ARS Question 7: Can she breastfeed if VL undetectable (U=U)?

1. Yes
2. No
3. I don't know

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### Question

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

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### Case 6

- 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 8: 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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| Pre-existing M184V Prior to Switch to INSTI Regimen: 4030 |   |  |
|---|---|--|
|   | Participants with Baseline M184V/I n=81 | HIV-1 RNA <50 c/ml at Week 12 IDMC (Blinded) |
| M184V/I alone   | 26% (21/81)                             | 95% (20/21)*                                 |
| M184V/I + ≥ 1 other NRTI-R                                |   |  |
| M184V/I + ZDV   |   | (59/60)*                                     |
| M184V/I + NNRTI-R   | 51% (41/81)                             | 98% (40/41)                                  |
| M184V/I + other NRTI-R                                    | 51% (41/81)                             | 98% (40/41)                                  |
| M184V/I + TAMs  | 42% (34/81)                             | 97% (33/34)                                  |
| M184V/I + primary INSTI-R                                 | 6% (5/81)                               | 100% (5/5)                                   |

\* p < 0.05 compared to baseline criteria for genotyping

Slide 42 of 66 R. Acosta, et al. CROI 2019 Abstr 0531

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Question

Does INSTI therapy cause weight gain?

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Case 7

- 47 year old woman starts on BIC/FTC/TAF 12 months ago from her original ARV regimen (TDF/FTC/DRV/r)
- Diagnosed 4 years ago
- Initial:** HIV RNA 28,000 c/ml (Wildtype virus)  
CD4 count 450 cells/ul
- Current:** HIV RNA <20 c/mL / CD4+ count 930 /uL
- Since starting her current regimen her weight has increased from **145 lbs to 171 lbs**

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### ARS Question 9: At this point you would...

1. **Keep her on her current Rx (TAF/FTC/BIC)**  
**Or Switch her to:**
2. TDF / FTC (fdc) / DRV/r
3. TAF / FTC / DRV/c (fdc)
4. TDF / FTC / RPV (fdc)
5. DTG / RLP (fdc)
6. TAF / FTC / ATV/c
7. Some other option

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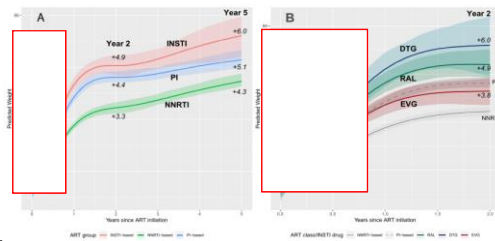
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### Change in Weight Overtime – NA-ACCORD

Bourgi et al CROI 2019

INSTI distribution: 4,740 Total; 1,681 (35%) RAL; 2,124 (45%) EVG; 935 (20%) DTG



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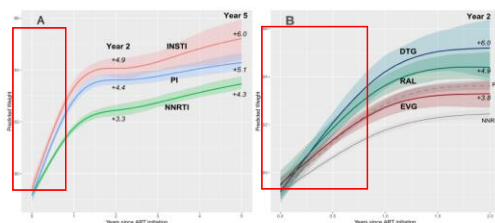
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### Change in Weight Overtime – NA-ACCORD

Bourgi et al CROI 2019

INSTI distribution: 4,740 Total; 1,681 (35%) RAL; 2,124 (45%) EVG; 935 (20%) DTG



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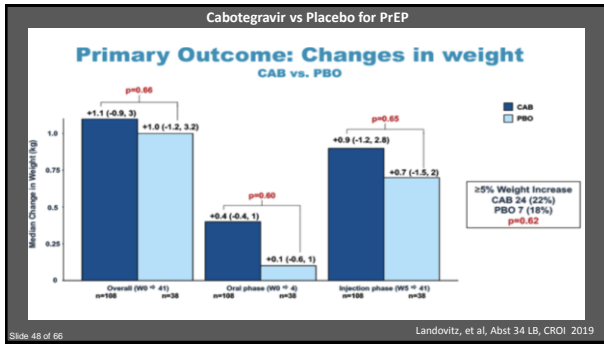
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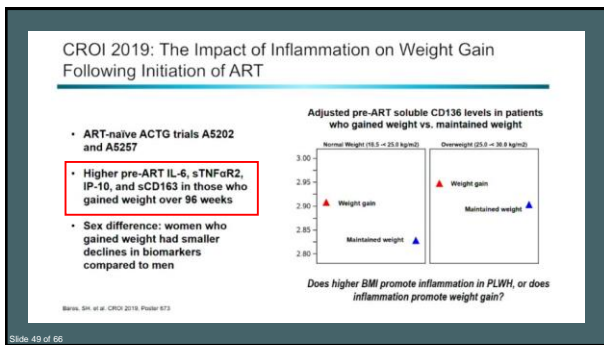
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## Question

What should I use for PrEP Rx?

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### Question

Should I simplify an “older” complex regimen?

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### Case 9

- 57 year old man transfers to your care; no prior resistance tests are available
- He diagnosed with HIV in 2001; prior opportunistic infections and complains of ‘Pill Fatigue’
- Has taken most existing antiretroviral drugs available; no exposure to DTG, ELV, or BIC
- Currently on TDF / FTC / ETV / DRV-r / Ral (twice daily)
- CD4+ count 430 /uL (nadir CD4 = 6)
  - HIV RNA <20 c/mL (max VL 667,000)

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### ARS Question 11: At this point which regimen would you choose?

1. Continue current therapy (7 pills)
- OR switch to:
2. TAF / FTC/ ELV / c (fd) / DRV (2 pills)
  3. ABC/ 3TC / DTG (fd) / DRV/c (2 pills)
  4. TAF / FTC / RAL / DRV/c (4 pills)
  5. TAF / FTC / DTG / DRV/c (3 pills)
  6. TAF/FTC/BIC (1 Pill)
  7. TAF / FTC / DTG (2 pills)
  8. Some other regimen

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### Question

What regimen should I start when a patient returns after a long absence?

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### Case 10

- 55 yo male returns after being "Lost to Follow Up" for 2 years
- Diagnosed 7 years ago with HIV infection
- Initial Rx: **TDF /FTC / RPV** (Tolerated well)
- **Initial:** HIV RNA 86,000 c/ml (wildtype virus)  
CD4 count 70 cells/ul
- **Status at last visit (2 years ago):**  
HIV RNA 26 c/ml / CD4 count 325 cells/ul
- Now returns and wants to re-engage in care
- Lab results pending

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### ARS Question 12: What ARV therapy should you use now?

1. Same regimen as originally on
2. Start an InSTI-based regimen
3. Start a PI-based regimen
4. Wait for repeat resistance test, then choose regimen based on results
5. Some other answer

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### Question

Should I stop abacavir in older patients?

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### Case 11

- 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 13: 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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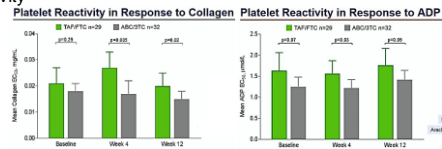
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### ABC → TAF – Effect on Platelets

- 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 Puntunen, JAMA 2018)

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Trial funded by Gilead Sciences, Inc

### Conclusions

- ARV therapy should be initiated with an InSTI-based regimen (unless otherwise indicated), as close to time of Dx as possible
- Do not change Rx in setting of low-level viremia
- Use DTG, BIC, TAF and Cobi cautiously in women who are contemplating pregnancy
- M184V mutation does not have much impact on InSTI based Rx
- Weight gain is associated with initiation of ARV Rx, with more weight gain observed in InSTI regimens
- Standard PrEP is daily TDF/FTC, though newer approaches are being developed, including 2:1:1 episodic treatment

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### Question-and-Answer

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