

## Treating HIV in 2020 — Interactive Cases From the Clinic(ians)

Michael S. Saag, MD  
Professor of Medicine  
Associate Dean for Global Health  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
Birmingham, Alabama

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Learning Objectives

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

- Are starting initial therapy
- Are Elite Controllers
- Are debating between starting TDF or TAF
- Are pregnant
- Have persistent low-level viremia
- Have M184V at baseline
- Have a slow CD4 count response to Rx

Slide 3 of 49

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Question

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

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Case 1

- 30 yo male was diagnosed with HIV infection 4 hours ago in the ER
- Asymptomatic
- **Initial:** No Viral Load, CD4, Resistance Data, or HLA-B57 neg
- Other labs are normal  
WBC 3800 / Lymphocytes 20%
- No prior medical history.
- Ok to start therapy if you think he should

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### ARS Question 1: When would you choose to start therapy?

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

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Question

What regimen should I use as initial therapy for this patient?

Slide 7 of 49

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**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. DTG + 3TC
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 ...)

Slide 8 of 49

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Question**

What regimen should I  
use as initial therapy?

Slide 9 of 49

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**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
- Genotype is Wild-type virus
- No prior medical history. Normal renal function
- Ok to start therapy if you think he should

Slide 10 of 49

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**ARS Question 3: 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 / cobi (fdc)
5. TAF/ FTC / BIC (fdc)
6. 3TC/DTG (fdc)
7. TAF / FTC / RPV (fdc)
8. TAF/ FTC (fdc) + DRV/r (or cobi / fdc)
9. Some other option (e.g., DRV/r + DTG or ...)

Slide 11 of 49

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**ARS Question 4: Would you use TAF or TDF with an InSTI?**

1. TAF
2. TDF
3. Either

Slide 12 of 49

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

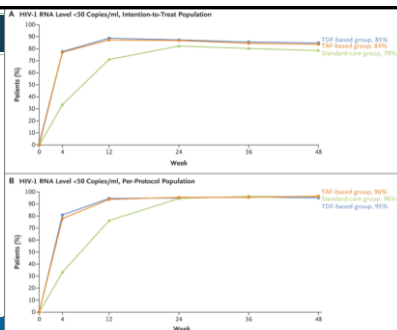
---

**ADVANCE**

DTG/TAF/FTC  
VS  
DTG/TDF/FTC  
VS  
EFV/TDF/FTC

NEJM 381: 803-15, 2019

Slide 13 of 49




---

---

---

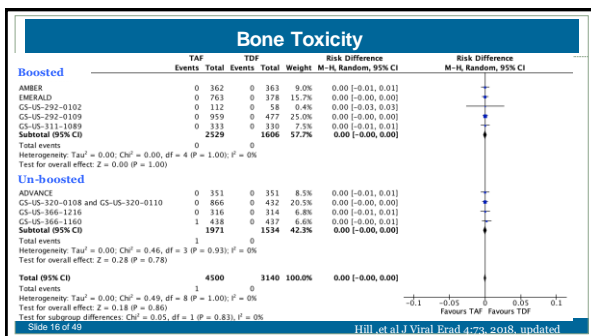
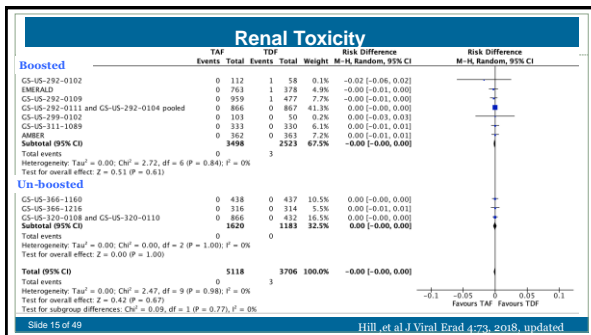
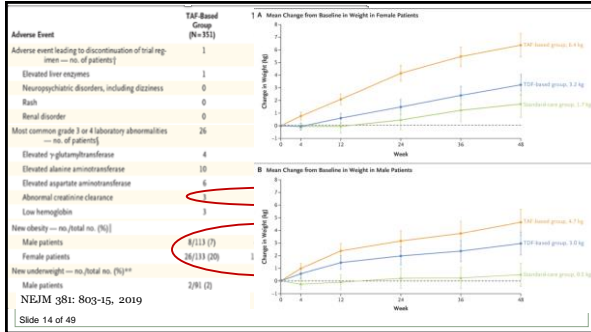
---

---

---

---

---



### Question

Does InSTI therapy cause weight gain?

Slide 17 of 49

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Case 3

- 47 yo female 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**

Slide 18 of 49

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### ARS Question 5: 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

Slide 19 of 49

---

---

---

---

---

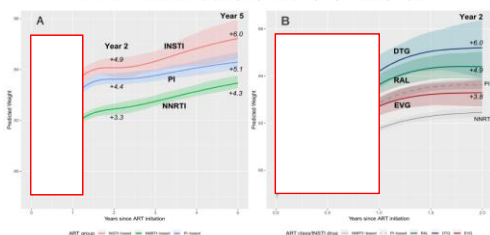
---

---

## Change in Weight Overtime – NA-ACCORD

Bourgi et al CROI 2019

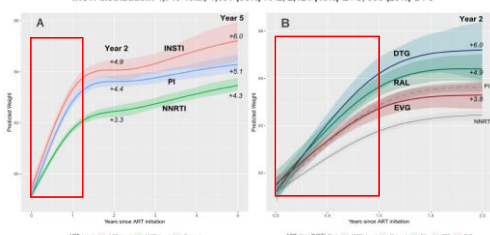
INSTI distribution: 4,740 Total; 1,681 (35%) RAL; 2,124 (45%) EVG; 935 (20%) DTG



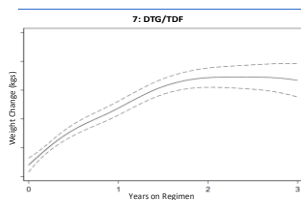
## Change in Weight Overtime – NA-ACCORD

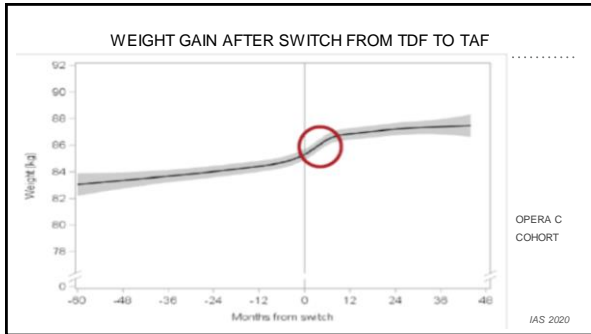
Bourgi et al CROI 2019

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



## GAM PLOT: CHANGE IN WEIGHT IN KG OVER TIME






---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Question**

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

Slide 24 of 49

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Case 4**

- 30 yo female 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

Slide 25 of 49

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



### ARS Question 6: 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

Slide 26 of 49

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Prospective Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry (APR): Integrase Inhibitors (InSTI) and Neural Tube Defects (NTD) Albano J et al. CROI 2019 Seattle, WA Abs. 747

- 1,193 live births with InSTI exposure at any time in pregnancy; 604 periconceptional exposure, including 174 DTG, 186 EVG, 244 RAL.
- 2 CNS defect cases were reported with InSTI exposure at any time (both DTG, one 1<sup>st</sup> trimester, one 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> trimester).
- There were **no NTD** among **prospective cases** for any InSTI drug.

	Earliest Trimester of Exposure – Prospective Cases		
	Periconception	1 <sup>st</sup> Trimester	2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> Trimester
Defects/live birth			
Exposure to any InSTI	16/604 (2.6%)	4/135 (3.0%)	17/452 (3.8%)
Dolutegravir	6/174 (3.4%)	2/55 (3.6%)	4/137 (2.9%)
Efavirenz	5/186 (2.7%)	0/27 (0%)	0/57 (0%)
Raltegravir	5/244 (2.0%)	4/68 (5.9%)	13/290 (4.5%)

**No Neural Tube Defects**  
 CNS 2: 1 (Bosomprity – neural migration disorder) with periconception DTG; 1 (Bosomprity) with 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> trimester DTG exposure.  
 Face, ear, limb, neck: 2  
 Oral clefts: 2  
 Musculoskeletal: 8  
 Respiratory: 1  
 Cardiovascular: 11  
 Immune: 0  
 Other organ systems: 1  
 Specified syndromes: 1  
 Total: 31

From JR Anderson, MD at New Orleans, LA December 4-7, 2019, Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program CLINICAL CONFERENCE IAS-USA

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



### More Rapid VL Decline with Dolutegravir than Efavirenz

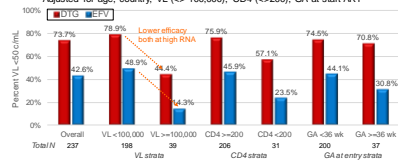
Khoo S et al. CROI 2019 Seattle, WA Abs 401B

#### Primary outcome

Time on medication before delivery, median 55 days

Delivery	Dolutegravir	Efavirenz	aRR DTG vs EFV*	P value
VL <50	73.8% (90/122)	42.6% (49/115)	1.66 (1.2, 2.1)	<0.0001
VL <1000	92.6% (113/122)	82.6% (95/115)	1.11 (1.0, 1.2)	0.0513

\*Adjusted for age, country, VL (< 100,000), CD4 (< 200), GA at start ART



From JR Anderson, MD at New Orleans, LA December 4-7, 2019, Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program CLINICAL CONFERENCE IAS-USA

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Recommendations of Perinatal Guidelines

Panel: DTG (November 2019)

- **DTG is a preferred INSTI for ART-naïve women irrespective of trimester**

- For pregnant women receiving DTG and present to care in 1<sup>st</sup> trimester, counsel about risks/benefits of continuing DTG vs switch to alternative regimen. In most cases, continuation of DTG is recommended (**AIII**)
  - NTDs may have already occurred
  - Additional risk of NTD may be small, depending on current GA
  - Background risk of NTD (0.06% in US)
  - Changes in ART, even in 1<sup>st</sup> trimester, may increase risk of viral rebound
- DTG +TDF/FTC is recommended with acute HIV in pregnancy
- DTG is an alternative agent for women trying to conceive

From: JR Anderson, MD at New Orleans, LA, December 4-7, 2019, Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program CLINICAL CONFERENCE, IAS- USA.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Question

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

Slide 30 of 49

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Case 5

- 30 yo male was diagnosed with HIV infection 7 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 he should

Slide 31 of 49

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### ARS Question 7: Would you choose to start therapy at this time?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Maybe

Slide 32 of 49

---

---

---

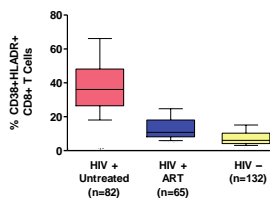
---

---

---

---

T cell “activation” is lower in treated than untreated adults, but consistently higher than “normal”



Slide 33 of 49

Hunt et al *JID* 2003, *PLoS ONE* 2011, and unpublished

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Question

What do I do with a patient who has persistently detectable viremia?

Slide 34 of 49

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Case 6

- 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 / DRVc / 3TC**
- No historical resistance tests are available

Slide 36 of 49

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### ARS Question 8: Should you change ARV therapy now?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not sure

Slide 36 of 49

---

---

---

---

---

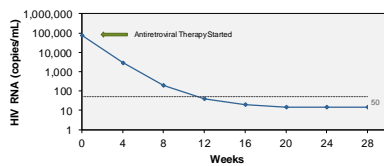
---

---

---

### Virologic Responses on Antiretroviral Therapy Virologic Suppression

Slide 37 of 152



Source: 2016 DHHS Antiretroviral Therapy Guidelines, AIDS Info.

National HIV Curriculum

Slide 37 of 49

---

---

---

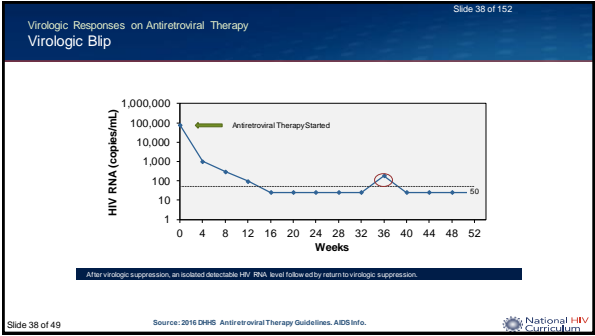
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

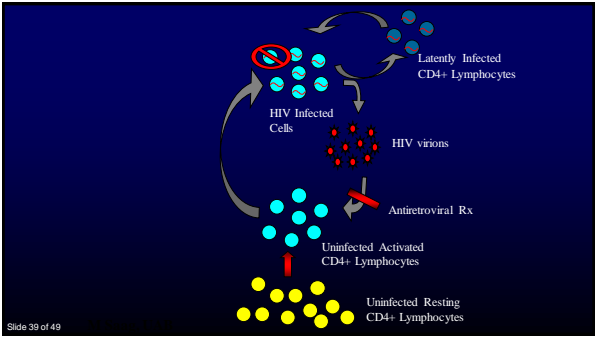
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

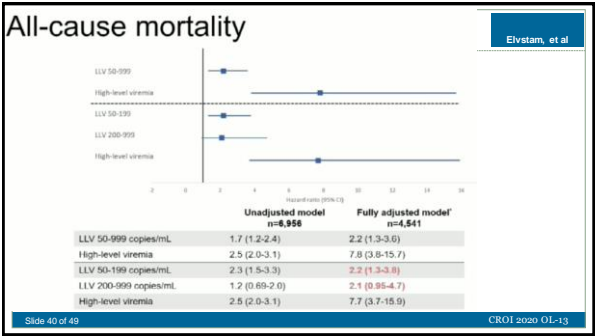
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

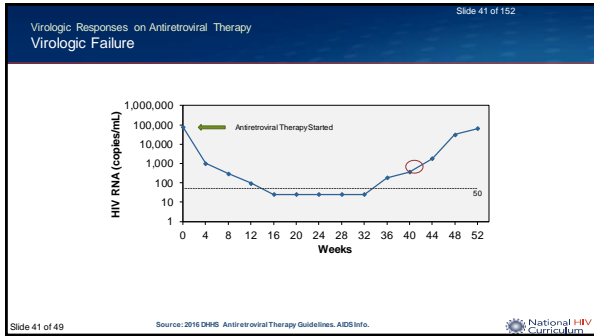
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Question**

How do I manage a heavily experienced patient who is experiencing virologic failure ?

Slide 42 of 49

---

---

---

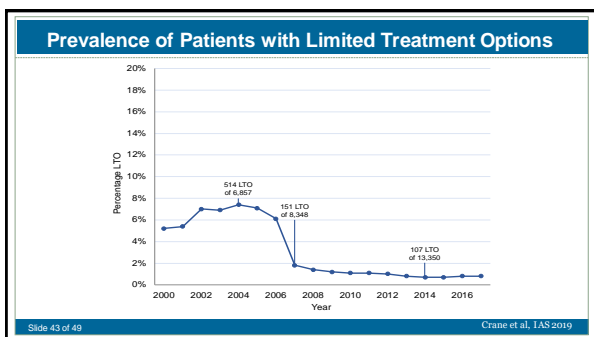
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

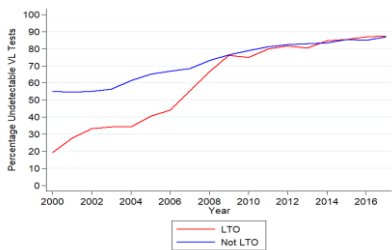
---

---

---

---

### Virologic Success in Those with or without LTO



Slide 44 of 49

Crane et al, IAS 2019

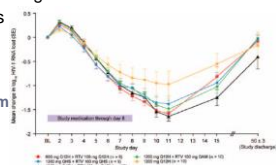
### Discussion

- Confirm the virologic failure
- Explore all prior regimens and resistance tests
- Identify 2 fully active drugs (if possible)
  - Use Dolutegravir (50 mg) twice daily
  - Some form of Tenofovir (as long as no K65R)
  - Boosted darunavir
  - 3TC or FTC (despite resistance)
    - × Ibalizumab
    - × Fostemsavir

Slide 45 of 49

### Fostemsavir (FTR): Oral HIV Attachment Inhibitor

- Prodrug of **temsavir (TMR)**
- Inhibits CD4 binding by **binding to gp120**
- PK suggests daily dosing without boosting
- Phase 1 dose-escalation over 8 days
  - 5 doses (4 with RTV)
  - up to 1.5 log cps/ml ↓
  - ↓ baseline susceptibility in 12% of pts due to envelope polymorphism



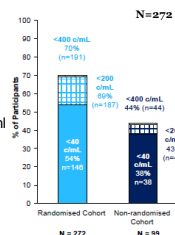
Slide 46 of 49

Nettles JID 2012;206:1002

## Fostemsavir (FTR): BRIGHT (Phase 3)

Heavily rx-experienced (1-2 remaining ART classes)  
NOT screened for susceptibility

- Randomized to FTR 600 mg bid or placebo
  - Those with **no** remaining ART classes non-randomized
- Day 8 (primary endpoint):
  - mean HIV RNA Δ: -0.2 log (placebo) vs. -0.8 cps/ml (FTR) (p<0.0001)
- Then, optimized background ART
  - wk 48: VL <40: 54% (randomized) vs. 38% (non-randomized)
- Approved July 2020



Slide 47 of 49

Abers/Ackerman/Glassow 2018 #R114

## 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
- Do not change Rx in setting of low CD4 count response
- DTG is drug of choice in (most) pregnant women (GIVE FOLATE)
- Weight gain is associated with initiation of ARV Rx, with more weight gain observed in InSTI- and TAF-containing regimens
- Use two active drugs (if possible) in treating Virologic Failure

Slide 48 of 49

## Question-and-Answer Session