

# **2019 ART Clinical Guidelines**

for the Management of HIV in Adults, Pregnancy, Adolescents, Children, Infants and Neonates

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This ART Clinical Guideline is intended to serve as a quick reference guide for antiretroviral treatment (ART) in adults, pregnant women, adolescents and paediatric clients, and as a job aide for healthcare workers and implementing partners. This document is not intended to be exhaustive; for more information or details on any recommendations, or on the prevention of mother-to-child transmission, please refer to the comprehensive Consolidated HIV Guidelines document and the Guideline for the Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of Communicable Infections (HIV, Hepatitis, Listeriosis, Malaria, Syphilis and TB) 2019.

#### The objectives of this document are to:

- Provide guidance on initiation of ART in antiretroviral-naïve clients as well as those returning to care in the era of dolutegravir (DTG)
- Provide guidance for switching of clients already on ART to DTG-containing regimens
- Highlight critical areas for provision of integrated ART, TB, and family planning services.

All people either currently on ART, or newly initiated on ART, should be screened for TB and assessed for TB preventive therapy (TPT) as indicated.

The preferred first-line ART regimen is tenofovir disoproxil fumarate-lamivudine-dolutegravir (TLD) for those clients initiating ART, experiencing side-effects to EFV, or for those who prefer to use DTG after being given all the necessary information.

However, due to concerns around safety of TLD in the first trimester of pregnancy, tenofovir disoproxil fumarate-emtricitabine-efavirenz (TEE) is recommended for women of childbearing potential not using contraception and women wanting to conceive. For this reason, integration of family planning and ART services are of paramount importance, and issues of family planning and contraception should be discussed at every clinical interaction to understand the client's current fertility desires and healthcare needs.

The guideline broadly follows the process of care, namely:

- 1) ART eligibility and determining the timeframe for ART initiation
- 2) ART initiation
- 3) Management of the client on ART
- 4) Second and third-line ART regimens.

#### The Goals of ART **ART Eligibility ART Initiation** Management of and Determining the Client on ART Achieve Baseline clinical the Timeframe for Switching stable and Maintain evaluation **ART Initiation** Virological clients on ART Baseline laboratory Second • Who is eligible? Suppression to new first-line evaluation and Reasons to defer Dolutegravir regimens Third-line ART Monitoring a First-line ART **ART** client on ART regimens Regimens With the aim to: Management of **Dual treatment** VL results for HIV and TB Decrease opportunistic infections and other **HIV-related conditions** Minimise the development of treatment resistance Decrease the morbidity and mortality from HIV/AIDS Improve quality of life



All people living with HIV (PLHIV) are eligible to start ART regardless of age, CD4 cell count and clinical stage. For all clients without contra-indications, ART should be initiated within 7 days, and on the same day if possible. Pregnant women, infants and children under five years, and clients with advanced HIV disease should be prioritised for rapid initiation. Certain clients (including pregnant women) may be able to initiate ART on the same day as their HIV diagnosis, provided that they are clinically well, and are motivated to start ART. While rapid, and same-day where possible, initiation is encouraged, all clients, particularly those with advanced HIV disease, should be carefully assessed for opportunistic infections that may necessitate ART deferral.

#### **Medical Indications to Defer ART**

	Medical Indications to Defer ART
Indication	Action
TB symptoms (cough, night sweats, fever, recent weight loss)	Investigate for TB before initiating ART. If TB is excluded, proceed with ART initiation and TB preventive therapy (after excluding contra-indications to TPT). If TB is diagnosed, initiate TB treatment and defer ART. The timing of ART initiation will be determined by the site of TB infection and the client's CD4 cell count
Diagnosis of drug-sensitive (DS) or drug-resistant (DR) TB at a non-neurological site (e.g. pulmonary TB, abdominal TB, or TB lymphadenitis)	Defer ART initiation as follows:  • If CD4 < 50 cells/μL − initiate ART within 2 weeks of starting TB treatment, when the client's symptoms are improving, and TB treatment is tolerated  • If CD4 ≥ 50 cells/μL − initiate ART 8 weeks after starting TB treatment
Diagnosis of DS-TB or DR-TB at a neurological site (e.g. TB meningitis or tuberculoma)	Defer ART until 4-8 weeks after start of TB treatment
Signs and symptoms of meningitis	Investigate for meningitis before starting ART
Cryptococcal antigen (CrAg) positive in the absence of symptoms or signs of meningitis	Defer ART until the first 2 weeks of fluconazole prophylaxis has been completed
Confirmed cryptococcal meningitis	Defer ART until 4-6 weeks of antifungal treatment has been completed
Other acute illnesses e.g.  Pneumocystis jirovecii pneumonia (PJP) or bacterial pneumonia	Defer ART for 1-2 weeks after commencing treatment for the infection
Clinical symptoms or signs of liver disease	Confirm liver injury using ALT and total bilirubin levels. ALT elevations > 120 IU/L with symptoms of hepatitis, and/or total serum bilirubin concentrations > 40 µmol/L are significant. Investigate and manage possible causes including hepatitis B, druginduced liver injury (DILI), or alcohol abuse

Note: Clients who are already on ART should NOT have their treatment interrupted upon diagnosis of the above conditions

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A clinical assessment and laboratory baseline investigations should be done in order to initiate ART. However, laboratory results do not need to be available to start clients on ART on the same day, provided they have no clinical evidence of TB, meningitis or renal disease. In addition, all clients, and caregivers of paediatric clients, must receive counselling on how to administer medication, monitor side-effects and deal with challenges to adherence.



# Baseline Clinical Evaluation for Adults and Adolescents, Pregnant Women, and Children < 10 years

The baseline clinical evaluation of a client about to start ART requires a thorough **history and clinical examination**. The minimum components of the baseline clinical evaluation are outlined in the table below.

Commonweat of the		Further	Action Required	
Component of the Baseline Clinical Evaluation	Purpose	Adolescents (10-19 years) and Adults	Pregnant Women	Children (< 10 years)
Recognise the client with respiratory, neurological, or abdominal danger signs needing urgent care	To identify opportunistic infections and conditions needing urgent care or referral	Identify respiratory, neurological, or abdominal danger signs as outlined in Adult Primary Care (APC) guideline	Identify danger signs as outlined in the Maternity Care guidelines	Identify danger signs as classified in the IMCI Chart booklet
Nutritional Assessment	To identify recent weight loss that may indicate an active opportunistic infection (OI) or other pathology. To identify underweight/ obese clients requiring nutritional and lifestyle support	Measure weight and height and leight and determine BMI (kg/m²): < 18.5 = underweight; 18.5 to 25 = normal; > 25 to < 30 = overweight; ≥30 = obese	Measure mid upper arm circumference (MUAC) Women with MUAC < 23 cm require additional nutritional support/ referral	Plot weight, height and head circumference (if < 2 years) on growth chart, and measure MUAC to identify moderate and severe malnutrition
Screen for TB	To identify clients with a positive TB screen who require further investigations for TB To identify clients with a negative TB screen who may be eligible for TPT (see page 7)	Identify symptoms of cough, night sweats, fever, recent weight loss as outlined in the TB screening tool	Do a TB symptom screen and TB GeneXpert for all HIV-positive women at first visit in antenatal clinic, due to the lower sensitivity of the TB symptom screen in pregnant women	Identify symptoms of cough, night sweats, fever, recent weight loss as outlined in the TB screening tool
Screen for symptoms of meningitis	To diagnose and treat clients with cryptococcal and other forms of meningitis and reduce associated morbidity and mortality	Identify symptoms of headache, confusion or visual disturbances. With cryptococcal meningitis, clients may only present with a recurrent headache. Other symptoms may include fever, neck stiffness or coma. Refer the client for a lumbar puncture. Defer ART if meningitis is confirmed as outlined in "Medical Reasons to Defer ART" on page 3		

Component of the		Further	Action Required		
Baseline Clinical Evaluation	Purpose	Adolescents (10-19 years) and Adults	Pregnant Women	Children (< 10 years)	
Screen for active depression, other mental health issues or substance abuse	EFV and, to a lesser extent DTG, are associated with neuropsychiatric sideeffects. In general, ART can be initiated, and cautiously monitored. Substance use can affect adherence	Screen for symptoms of depression, psychosis, and substance abuse		Screen for symptoms of depression in older children	
Screen for major chronic non- communicable diseases (NCDs) (diabetes, hypertension, epilepsy)	To identify and manage clients with major chronic NCDs and/or comorbidities.  To identify and prevent potential drug interactions with ART e.g. metformin and anti-epileptic medications	Do blood pressure (BP), and urine dipstix for proteinuria and glucose. Identify other risk factors (smoking, increased waist circumference, age) and determine cardiovascular (CVS) risk. Manage NCDs and CVS risk factors as outlined in the PHC EML	Do blood pressure (BP), and urine dipstix for proteinuria and glucose	Identify the child with epilepsy and be aware of potential drug interactions of anti-epileptic treatment and ART	
Screen for <b>pregnancy</b> and ask if planning to conceive	To identify pregnancy and facilitate early referral for antenatal care (ANC) and measures to prevent mother-to-child transmission (MTCT).  To assess fertility intentions and contraceptive needs if not pregnant.  To assess eligibility for DTG-containing regimens	Ask if the client is currently using contraception and if her last menstrual period occurred at the expected time. If she answered "no" to either question, do a urine pregnancy test	N/A	N/A	
Symptom screen for sexually transmitted infections (STIs)	To identify and treat STIs in sexually active clients	STI screening should include the following three questions: "Do you have any genital discharge?" "Do you have any genital ulcers?" "Has/have your partner(s) been treated for an STI in the last 8 weeks?		N/A	
Neurodevelopmental screen	To identify children with neurodevelopmental delay requiring intervention/referral and follow-up	N/A	N/A	Screen for developmental delays as outlined in the child's Road to Health Booklet (RTHB)	
WHO clinical stage	After the baseline clinical evaluation has been completed by means of a thorough history and clinical examination, the client's WHO clinical stage can be determined:				
	At ART initiation, WHO clinical stage helps us to: Understand the severity of the client's clinical condition and the associated risk of mortality Determine the urgency and timing of ART initiation Determine if cotrimoxazole prophylaxis (CPT) is indicated (see "Indications for CPT" on page 7)				

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# Baseline Laboratory Evaluation for Adults and Adolescents, Pregnant Women, and Children includes the following:



The following baseline laboratory investigations should be performed routinely before a client initiates ART. Clients are not required to wait for the results of the baseline investigations prior to starting ART, but results should be checked at the next visit.

Laboratory evaluation	Purpose	Adolescents (10-19 years) and Adults	Pregnant Women	Children (< 10 years)
Confirm HIV test result	To confirm HIV status for those without documented HIV status	✓	✓	✓
CD4 cell count/ %	To identify eligibility for CPT	See "Indications for starting and sto	oping cotrimoxazole" in table o	on page 7
	To identify eligibility for cryptococcal antigen (CrAg) screening	A reflex CrAg test will be done autor on all CD4 counts < 100 cells/μL	natically by the laboratory	N/A
Creatinine and eGFR if TDF used	To assess renal insufficiency	See table titled "Assessing Renal Fu	nction" on page 7	N/A
Haemoglobin (Hb)	To identify and manage anaemia; to determine eligibility for zidovudine (AZT) where necessary	If Hb is low, do a full blood count (FBC). Characterise according to mean corpuscular volume (MCV) as either microcytic, normocytic, or macrocytic and manage accordingly <sup>1</sup>	Treat with ferrous sulphate tds if Hb < 10 g/dL. Refer if < 8 g/dL and symptoms, if anaemia diagnosed at 36 weeks gestation or later, or if no response to treatment	Children < 5 years: Treat with iron supplements and deworm the child¹ Children > 5 years: Do FBC. Characterise according to MCV and manage accordingly¹
GeneXpert	To diagnose TB	Only for those clients with a positive TB symptom screen  Regardless of TB symptoms, routinely do a TB GeneXpert for all HIV-positive women at first visit in antenatal clinic, due to the lower sensitivity of the TB symptom screen in pregnant women		Only for those with a positive TB symptom screen
Cryptococcal antigen test (CrAg) if CD4 < 100 cells/ µL	To identify asymptomatic clients who need pre-emptive fluconazole treatment	A reflex CrAg test will be done automatically by the laboratory on all CD4 counts < 100 cells/ $\mu$ L If CrAg-negative, no fluconazole is required If CrAg-positive, the client will require treatment of the infection If asymptomatic, provide oral fluconazole If symptomatic, refer for a lumbar puncture	a positive CrAg should be referred for a lumbar puncture, regardless of symptoms. The results of the lumbar puncture and further management should be discussed with an expert, or one of the helplines provided on	
Cervical cancer screening	To identify women with cervical lesions and manage appropriately	All HIV-positive women should be screened for cervical cancer at diagnosis and subsequently every year if the screening test is negative. If positive, she should be referred for colposcopy and further interventions  Hormonal changes during pregnancy may give false positive or negative results. Delay screening until 6 weeks postpartum		N/A
HBsAg	To identify those co-infected with hepatitis B (HBV)	If positive, exercise caution in stoppi to prevent hepatitis flares	ing TDF-containing regimens,	N/A

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As outlined in the PHC EML 2018

	Assessing Renal Function						
34	Age/pregnancy Status	What must be measured?	Acceptable level for TDF use				
	≥ 10 and < 16 years of age	eGFR using Counahan Barratt formula	> 80 mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>	Counahan Barratt formula eGFR (mL/min/1.73 m²)			
	Adults and adolescents ≥ 16 years	eGFR using MDRD equation <sup>1</sup>	> 50 mL/min/1.73m <sup>2</sup>	height [cm] x 40			
	Pregnant women	Absolute creatinine level	< 85 μmol/L	creatinine [μmol/L]			

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Modification of Diet in Renal Disease Study (MDRD) equation

### Indications for Starting and Stopping Cotrimoxazole Preventive Therapy (CPT)

Age and HIV status	When to Start	When to Stop
HIV-positive infant under 1 year of age	All children under 1 year should be on cot	rimoxazole irrespective of CD4% or clinical stage
HIV-positive child 1-5 years of age	CD4% < 25 %, WHO Stage 2, 3, and 4	Discontinue if CD4 count > 25 %
HIV-positive child under 5 years of age with PJP infection	Start CPT after PJP treatment is completed	Continue CPT until 5 years of age and stop thereafter only if CD4 criteria in the older-than-five category are met
HIV-positive adults and children older than 5 years	CD4 count < 200 cells/μL, WHO Stage 2, 3 and 4	Discontinue if CD4 count > 200 cells/μL

#### TB Preventive Therapy

All clients starting ART, or already on ART, and who have not yet received TB Preventive Therapy (TPT), should be considered for TPT. Prior to initiating TPT, active TB should be ruled out by screening for TB symptoms. A Tuberculin skin test (TST) is not required prior to starting TPT.

Category of Client	Specific Eligibility Criteria	Treatment and Duration	
Adult or adolescent > 15 years (non-pregnant)	Any CD4 count. Exclude active liver disease, alcohol abuse, or known hypersensitivity to isoniazid	Isoniazid, oral, 300 mg daily for 12 months and pyridoxine 25 mg daily	
Children who are contacts of index TB cases	Children < 5 years (regardless of HIV status), and children 5-14 years who are HIV-positive	Isoniazid, oral, 10 mg/kg/day for 6 months (maximum dose 300 mg daily)	
Pregnant women	Eligible if CD4 count < 100 cells/μL. If CD4 > 100 cells/uL, defer TPT till after delivery*	Isoniazid, oral, 300 mg daily for 12 months and pyridoxine 25 mg daily	

<sup>\*</sup> The APPRISE randomised control trial found a higher incidence of adverse pregnancy outcomes in mothers who used TPT in pregnancy

#### Dolutegravir (DTG) Overview

For further detail on switching existing stable clients on ART between regimens, see "Switching Stable Clients on ART Between First-Line Regimens" on page 13

Class of ARV: Integrase Inhibitor (InSTI)

Formulations:

- Fixed-dose combination: tenofovir (TDF) 300 mg + lamivudine (3TC) 300 mg + DTG 50 mg (TLD). TLD can be prescribed for clients > 35 kg and > 10 years of age
- DTG 50 mg tablet

Standard Dose: Children > 20 kg; adolescents and adults: DTG 50 mg daily

DTG dose with concomitant TB treatment: Double DTG dose to 50 mg 12-hourly. If on TLD FDC, add DTG 50 mg 12 hours after TLD dose

Side-effects: Usually mild and self-limiting. Side-effects include insomnia, headache, central nervous system (CNS) effects, and gastrointestinal effects. Weight gain has emerged as a side effect of this class of drugs; clients who are overweight should receive lifestyle interventions (see below) and obese clients may be considered for EFV. DTG is known to decrease tubular secretion of creatinine without affecting glomerular filtration. Serum creatinine levels increase early in treatment (by less than 15%), remain stable throughout therapy, and are not an indication to stop DTG. A creatinine level that keeps on rising, is however a cause for concern and could indicate TDF toxicity or other underlying pathology. DTG can be taken in the evening or the morning as per the clients's preference. However, if the client develops insomnia, TLD should be taken in the morning.

DTG and neural tube defects: DTG may increase the risk of neural tube defects (NTDs). DTG should be avoided periconception and in the first trimester of pregnancy. DTG appears to be safe if started after the first trimester. The neural tube closes by the end of the fourth week of pregnancy. Thus, there is no risk of NTDs with TLD use after this period. Women of childbearing potential (WOCP) should be counseled regarding the risk of NTDs and advised to use effective contraception if taking DTG.



Care should be provided in ways that respect women's autonomy in decision-making about their health, and services must provide information and options to enable women to make informed choices.<sup>1</sup> Women of childbearing potential should be given all necessary information on DTG- and EFV-containing regimens, including the benefits and potential risks of neural tube defects (NTDs) with DTG use during periconception period, as well as known risks of EFV-based regimens.

Benefits of using DTG	Risks of using DTG	
Provides rapid viral suppression	DTG may increase the risk of neural tube defects (NTDs) if	
High genetic barrier to resistance	used in the first four weeks after conception	
No interaction with hormonal contraceptives	Drug interactions with	
Side-effects are mild and uncommon	Rifampicin	

Benefits of using EFV	Risks of using EFV	
Safe in pregnancy	Low genetic barrier to resistance	
No significant interaction	Drug interactions with contraceptives	
with TB treatment	Neuropsychiatric side- effects	

## **FEMALE CONTRACEPTIVE METHODS**









Women should be provided a choice of contraceptive options, which includes condoms, oral contraceptives, implants, injectables, and intra-uterine contraceptive devices (IUCDs). Dual methods are recommended, and consist of a hormonal method or IUCD to prevent pregnancy, and a barrier method (male/female condoms) to prevent STIs and HIV transmission.

Contraceptive choices need to respect and fulfill human rights and enable clients to make informed choices for themselves. Client contraceptive choices, however, are often influenced directly or indirectly by social, economic and cultural factors. It is in this context that clients should be given comprehensive, scientifically accurate information in order to assist them to make an informed, voluntary choice of a contraceptive method.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Updated recommendations on first-line and second-line antiretroviral regimens and post-exposure prophylaxis and recommendations on early infant diagnosis of HIV July 2018", page 5. Available at: http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/273632/WHO-CDS-HIV-18.18-eng.pdf?ua=1

#### Lifestyle Interventions

All clients should be encouraged to apply the following lifestyle changes as appropriate: Maintain an ideal weight, i.e. BMI < 25 kg/m $^2$ . Overweight clients with BMIs > 25 kg/m $^2$  should reduce their weight. Alcohol intake should be reduced to < 2 standard drinks per day for men, and < 1 for women on no more than 5 out of 7 days per week. A prudent eating plan should be followed i.e. low fat, high fibre and unrefined carbohydrates, with fresh fruit and vegetables. Regular moderate aerobic exercise, e.g. 30 minutes of brisk walking 3-5 times per week (150 minutes/week). The client should be advised to stop smoking.

#### **Drug Interactions with Dolutegravir**

Interacting Drug	Effect of Co-Administration	Recommendation
Rifampicin	Dolutegravir	Double DTG dose to 50 mg 12-hourly. If on TLD FDC, add DTG 50 mg 12 hours after TLD dose
		Calcium supplements decrease DTG concentrations if taken together on an empty stomach. To prevent this, DTG and calcium supplements can be taken at the same time if taken with food.
Polyvalent cations (Mg <sup>2+</sup> , Fe <sup>2+</sup> , Ca <sup>2+</sup> , Al <sup>3+</sup> , Zn <sup>2+</sup> ) e.g. antacids, sucralfate, multivitamin and nutritional supplements	Dolutegravir	Iron supplements decrease DTG concentrations if taken together on an empty stomach. To prevent this, DTG and iron supplements can be taken at the same time if taken with food. However, calcium and iron supplements must be taken at least 4 hours apart.
		Magnesium/aluminium containing antacids decrease DTG concentrations regardless of food intake and should be taken a minimum of 2 hours before or 6 hours after DTG
Anticonvulsants:  Carbamazepine  Phenobarbital  Phenytoin  Valproate	Dolutegravir	Avoid coadministration if possible (lamotrigine, levetiracetam, and topiramate do not interact with DTG, and can be used). Double DTG dose to 50 mg 12-hourly for carbamazepine if alternative anticonvulsant cannot be used
Metformin	Metformin	Maximum metformin dose 500 mg 12-hourly

Drug interactions can result in suboptimal drug levels which can cause

- an elevated viral load
- drug resistance, due to replicating virus in the presence of subtherapeutic drug levels

This table includes some of the most important drug interactions with DTG. Note that efavirenz, lopinavir/r and atazanavir/r also have important drug interactions. For more information, please refer to the following resources:

www.hiv-druginteractions.org/checker, the Liverpool HIV iChart application for smart phones, or any of the helplines provided on page 16

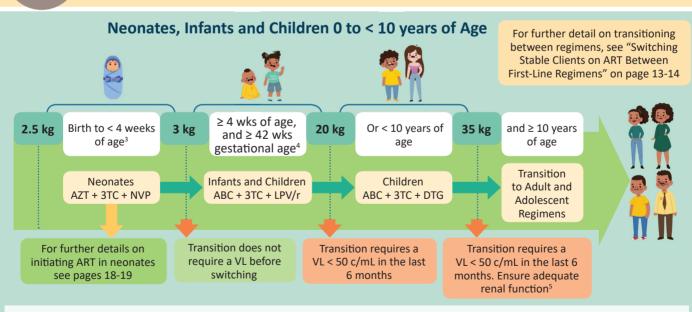
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#### Adult Women and Adolescent Girls ≥ 35 kg\* and ≥ 10 years of Age NO Women or Adolescent Girls of Childbearing Potential? YES <sup>1</sup>Women of childbearing potential should be Not Pregnant (including women Pregnant given all necessary diagnosed during breastfeeding) information on DTGand EFV-containing Provide all necessary information on regimens, including Provide all necessary information on DTG the benefits and DTG and EFV-based regimens and their and EFV-based regimens<sup>1</sup> implications for this and subsequent potential risks of NTDs Provide her with a choice of contraceptive pregnancies1 with DTG use during options as desired<sup>2</sup> periconception period, Discuss postpartum contraceptive as well as known risks options<sup>2</sup> of EFV-based regimens. Client does not Client wishes to wish to become become pregnant, <sup>2</sup>Women should be Second and First trimester of pregnant, and and/or is **not** provided a choice third trimester pregnancy is using reliable using reliable of contraceptive of pregnancy contraception contraception options (which includes condoms, Client oral contraceptives, Client makes an implants, injectables, makes an IUCD) informed informed choice to choice to use DTG use EFV TLD\* Document that the woman has been TEE\* TEE\* counselled and consents to receive DTG in the client's chart/file \* For adolescent girls who weigh less than 35 kg, replace tenofovir with abacavir (ABC)



Adult Men and Adolescent Boys ≥ 35 kg and ≥ 10 years of Age

TLD preferred



- <sup>3</sup> For preterm neonates and neonates with birth weight < 2.5 kg, or neonates with severe anaemia, obtain advice from an expert or through one of the helplines provided on page 16
- <sup>4</sup> For infants ≥ 4 weeks of age, ≥ 42 weeks gestational age, but weighing less than 3 kg, a paediatric expert should be consulted to determine the appropriate regimen
- <sup>5</sup> Before switching to TDF, ensure adequate renal function by checking eGFR/creatinine as outlined in table on page 7



#### ART Initiation in Women and Adolescent Girls Diagnosed with HIV during Labour

During labour, give a stat single fixed-dose combination tablet of TLD and a stat single dose of nevirapine (NVP). Lifelong ART should be initiated the following day after appropriate counselling to understand her fertility intentions and contraceptive needs:

TLD can be provided if she: 1) does not wish to become pregnant, 2) is willing to use contraception, or 3) has been given all necessary information on DTG-containing regimens and has made an informed decision to use TLD. If not, start TEE. Appropriate ART literacy education should be given to the woman before she leaves the facility. Provide a **2-month supply** of first-line ART regimen at discharge from labour ward.

#### Re-initiating ART in Clients who have Interrupted Treatment

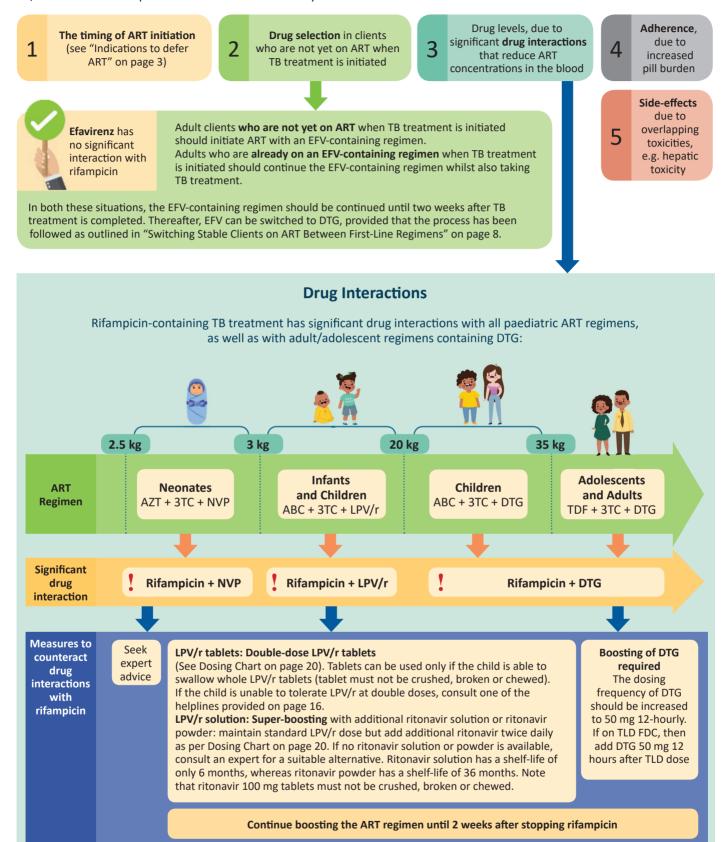
Take a thorough history including:

- 1) which drugs the patient was taking, and for how long;
- 2) the reasons for stopping ART;
- 3) side-effects; and
- 4) any information on VL measurements whilst on ART.
- If the patient was well on their first-line regimen, side-effects were not the reason for stopping ART, and their VL was suppressed (or no VL result is available), restart the first-line regimen they were on at the time of interruption. Do a VL after 3 months on ART. The majority of clients should suppress by 3 months on ART. For those that remain unsuppressed provide enhanced adherence support and repeat the VL at 6 months on ART (3 months later). If their VL is still unsuppressed at 6 months on ART, manage the virological failure in accordance with their specific regimen (see the "Management of VL results" algorithm on page 16). If in doubt, contact one of the helplines provided on page 16.
- If the client stopped treatment due to side-effects, manage as outlined in the comprehensive Consolidated HIV Guidelines document, or contact one of the helplines provided on page 16.
- If the client was failing but is still clinically well, consider restarting their original first line therapy.
- If the client is ill, consider a new regimen, consulting an experienced clinician as necessary.

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#### Dual Treatment of HIV and Active TB in Neonates, Infants, Children, Adolescents and Adults

TB/HIV co-infection impacts on ART in a number of ways. It affects:





### **Managing the Client on ART**

#### Switching Stable Clients on ART Between First-Line Regimens

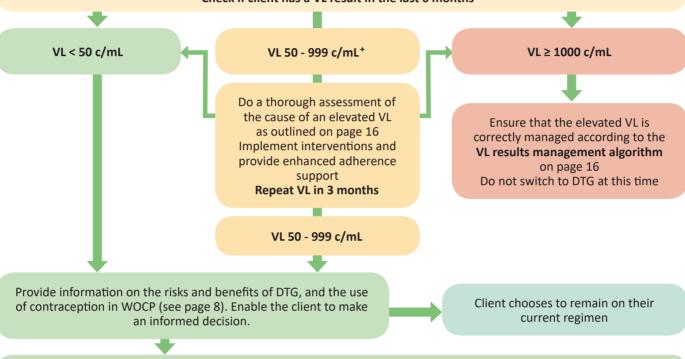


#### Switching Adults, and Adolescents who are on First-line Adult Regimens

#### **Routine VL Monitoring:**

(First VL at 6 months on ART. If virally suppressed (< 50 c/mL), repeat VL at 12 months on ART, and 12-monthly thereafter if viral load remains suppressed)

#### Check if client has a VL result in the last 6 months\*



#### Client chooses to switch to DTG

If current regimen is TDF + 3TC/FTC + EFV/NVP

If current regimen is AZT/ABC <sup>2</sup> + 3TC + EFV/NVP

Switch to TDF + 3TC/FTC + DTG1

Switch to AZT/ABC + 3TC + DTG1



Only switch a **stable pregnant woman** on ART from EFV to DTG if her VL is < 50 copies/mL, and she **is no longer in the first trimester**. A switch to DTG needs to be preceded by WOCP being given all necessary information on DTG-containing regimens, provision of postpartum contraceptive options if desired, and information on the new side-effects that may be experienced when switching to a new drug.



Warn the client of the new side-effects that may be experienced when switching to DTG (insomnia, headache, GIT disturbances). These are usually mild and self-limiting. If the client experiences insomnia, DTG can be taken in the morning.

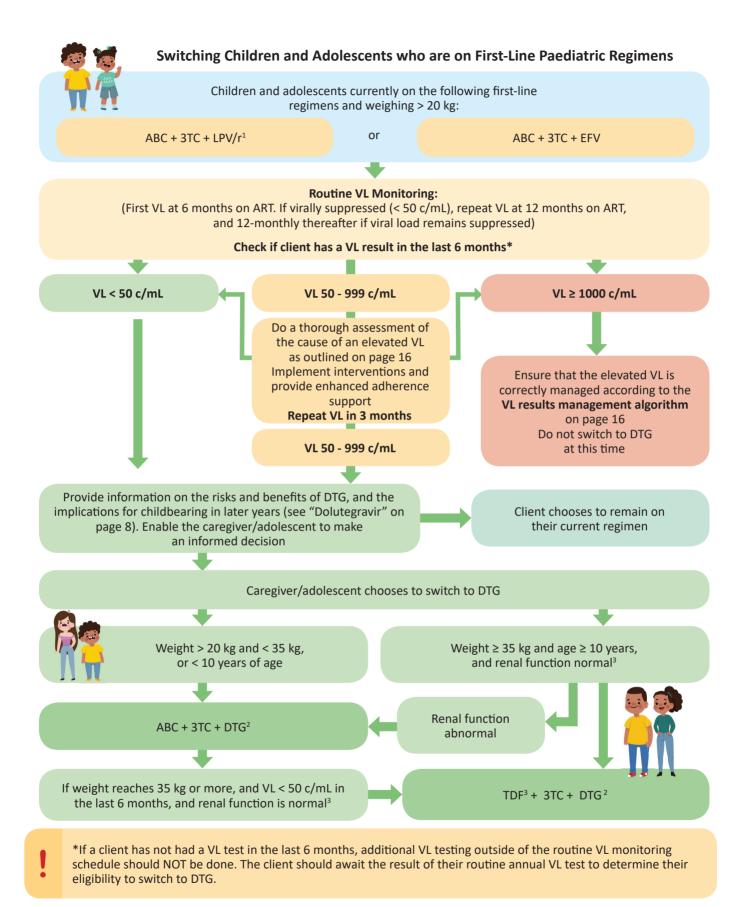


\*If a client has not had a VL test in the last 6 months, additional VL testing outside of the routine VL monitoring schedule should NOT be done. The client should await the result of their routine annual VL test to determine their eligibility to switch to DTG.

\*Clients on CCMDD can be considered for a switch to TLD and remain on CCMDD if they have a VL < 50 c/mL in the last 6 months. For more information see the TLD Transition Guide for Implementers, or the CCMDD SOP: Changing of ARV regimen from TEE to TLD (CCMDD SOP-16).

Discuss and provide sexual and reproductive health services for the sexually active adolescent/adult.

Assess the reason for exclusion of TDF from the NRTI backbone. If TDF was excluded due to TDF-induced nephrotoxicity, continue using the same NRTI backbone. If TDF was excluded due to non-TDF related renal failure that has since resolved, the use of TDF can be reconsidered. Before switching to TDF, ensure adequate renal function by checking eGFR/creatinine as outlined in the table "Assessing Renal Function" on page 7



- Switching LPV/r to DTG in this regimen applies strictly to first-line regimens only. If ABC + 3TC + LPV/r is used as a second-line regimen, it is possible that both NRTIs in the regimen are inactive. DTG should not be used without at least 1 active NRTI. If DTG is to be considered within a second-line regimen, expert guidance should be sought to ensure that at least 1 NRTI is active.
- <sup>2</sup> Discuss and provide sexual and reproductive health services for the sexually active adolescent/adult.
- <sup>3</sup> Before switching to TDF, ensure adequate renal function by checking eGFR/creatinine as outlined in the table "Assessing Renal Function" on page 7

#### **Monitoring on ART**

Providing quality care at the follow-up visit is essential to promote adherence, achieve and sustain viral suppression, minimise side-effects and toxicities, and promote quality of life. A client on ART should be monitored to:

1

Determine clinical response to ART

2

Determine the virological and immunological response to ART

3

Detect and manage any side-effects and toxicities

The following components should be included in the **clinical assessment**:

#### Weight (adults)

An assessment of trends in weight in adults

# Growth and neurodevelopment (children)

An assessment of trends in weight, height, head circumference, and neurodevelopment



Remember to adjust ART dosage according to weight!

#### Screen for TB and other Ols:

to diagnose and provide treatment; to adjust ART regimen if required; to determine if TB preventive therapy is required

#### WHO clinical staging

to determine response to ART, and CPT eligibility

Screen for pregnancy and ask if planning to conceive as outlined in the table for "Baseline Clinical Evaluation" on page 5

**Viral load** should be measured to timeously detect problems with adherence or treatment failure

At month 6 on ART and month 12 on ART Thereafter, if virally suppressed, repeat every 12 months

Remember, an elevated VL is a medical emergency!
Assess and manage according to the "Management of VL results" algorithm on page 16

#### The CD4 count

should be measured to monitor susceptibility to opportunistic infections and eligibility for CPT

At month 12 on ART
Thereafter, repeat every 6 months
until client meets criteria to
discontinue CPT. Thereafter, stop
CD4 monitoring if client remains
virologically suppressed
If not virologically suppressed,
monitor CD4 count every 6 months

**Side-effects and ART toxicities** can affect adherence and endanger the client's health:

#### **Drug side-effects**

Ask about side-effects at each visit (e.g. sleep or gastrointestinal disturbances)

#### **TDF-induced nephrotoxicity**

If on TDF, do creatinine and eGFR\* at months 3, 6 and 12
Thereafter, repeat every
12 months

#### Dyslipidaemia

If on a PI-based regimen (LPV/r, ATV/r, DRV/r), do total cholesterol and triglycerides (TGs) at month 3 If above acceptable range, do

fasting cholesterol and TGs and if still above acceptable range, obtain expert advice

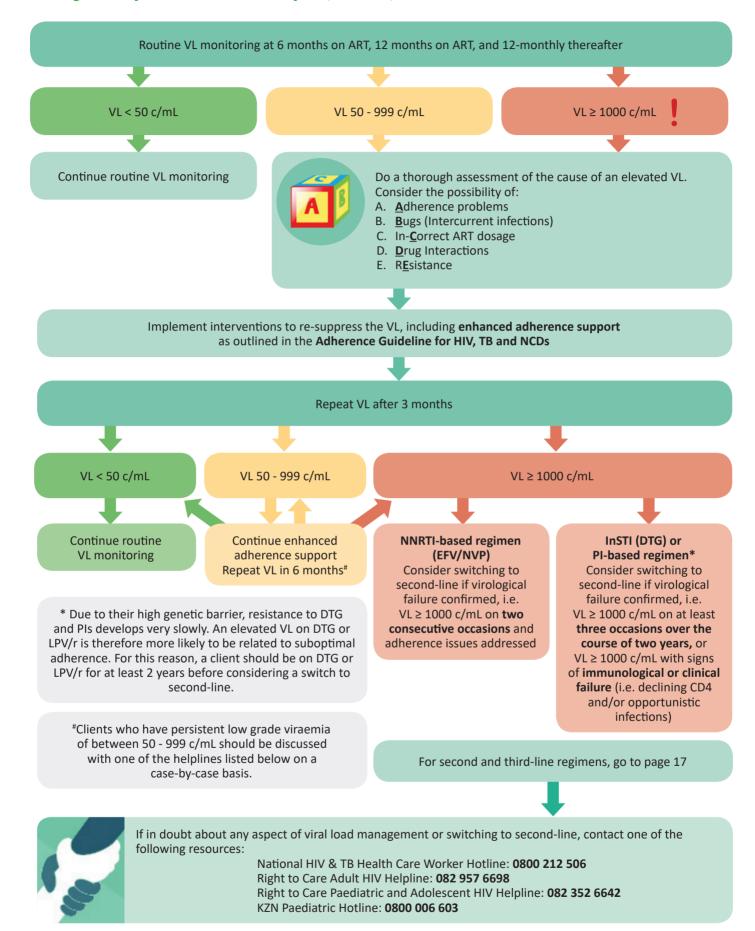
#### Anaemia and neutropaenia

If on AZT, do a full blood count and differential white cell count at months 3 and 6
Thereafter, repeat if clinically indicated

		"Assessing	Renal Function	
C S	Age/pregnancy status	What must be measured?	Acceptable level for TDF use	
6	> 10 and < 16 years of age	eGFR using Counahan Barratt formula	> 80 mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>	Counahan Barratt formula
	Adults and adolescents > 16 years	eGFR using MDRD equation <sup>1</sup>	> 50 mL/min/1.73m <sup>2</sup>	eGFR (mL/min/1.73 m $^2$ ) height [cm] x 40
	Pregnant women	Absolute creatinine level	< 85 μmol/L	= creatinine [μmol/L]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Modification of Diet in Renal Disease Study (MDRD) equation

#### Management of Viral Load Results in Infants, Children, Adolescents and Adults





### Second-Line (2L) and Third-Line (3L) ART Regimens

If in doubt about any aspect of switching to second-line, contact one of the helplines provided on page 16

#### Second-line ART Regimens for Adults with Confirmed Virological Failure

<b>8 9</b>						
		First-Line	Regimens		Second-Line Regimens	
ΠIL	NNRTI-base	ed Regimen	InSTI-based Regimen for > 2 years		PI-based Regimen fo	or > 2 years
Regimen	TDF + 3TC/FTC + EFV/NVP		TDF + 3TC/FTC + DTG		AZT/TDF + 3TC/FTC + LPV/r or ATV/r	
Resistance Testing	Resistance test <u>not</u> required		Resistance testing may be required under expert consultation <sup>5</sup>		Resistance test required	
Resistance Test results	Not applicable		Not applicable		No PI resistance	PI resistance
HBV Co-infection Status <sup>1</sup>	HBV-negative	HBV-positive	HBV-negative	HBV-positive	HBV-positive or -negative	
New Regimen	AZT + 3TC/FTC + DTG <sup>2</sup>	TDF <sup>1</sup> + AZT + 3TC/FTC + DTG <sup>2</sup>			Continue current regimen and address adherence.	Refer to Third- Line Committee.
	If DTG not suitable <sup>2</sup> , AZT + 3TC/FTC + LPV/r	If DTG not suitable <sup>2</sup> , TDF + 3TC + LPV/r <sup>4</sup>	AZT + 3TC/FTC + LPV/r	TDF + 3TC/FTC + LPV/r <sup>4</sup>	If intolerance to LPV/r is affecting adherence, discuss possible substitutions with an expert	Regimen will be determined by results of resistance test

#### Second and Third-line ART Regimens for Children and Adolescents with Confirmed Virological Failure



All children and adolescents with confirmed virological failure should be discussed with an expert.

THE TOTAL	•						
	NNRTI-base	ed Regimen	PI-base	ed Regimen for > 3	2 years	InSTI-based Reg	gimen for > 2 years
Regimen		F + 3TC/FTC + /NVP	ABC/AZT/TI	DF + 3TC/FTC + LP	V/r or ATV/r	ABC/AZT/TDF	+ 3TC/FTC + DTG
Resistance Testing	Resistance tes	st not required	Res	sistance test requi	ired	Resistance	e test required
Resistance Test Results	Not ap	plicable	No PI re	esistance	PI resistance (or genotype unsuccessful)	No InSTI resistance	InSTI resistance
Weight	< 20 kg	≥ <b>20</b> kg	< 20 kg	≥ <b>20</b> kg	All	· ·	/adolescents on I be ≥ 20 kg
New Regimen or Other Action Required		2 NRTIs + DTG <sup>2</sup> In consultation with an expert, ensure that at least 1 NRTI is active <sup>3</sup>	Continue	2 NRTIs + DTG <sup>2</sup> In consultation with an expert, ensure that at least 1 NRTI is active <sup>3</sup>	Refer to	2 NRTIs + DTG <sup>2</sup> In consultation with an expert, ensure that at least 1 NRTI is active <sup>3</sup>	Refer to
	ABC/AZT + 3TC + LPV/r <sup>4</sup>	If NRTI activity cannot be confirmed, expert will recommend 2 NRTIs + PI/r	current regimen and address adherence	If NRTI activity cannot be confirmed, expert will recommend 2 NRTIs + PI/r. Adherence must be addressed	Third- line committee	If NRTI activity cannot be confirmed, refer to Third- line committee	Third-line committee

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Always check hepatitis B status before stopping TDF. If client has chronic hepatitis B, stopping TDF may lead to a severe hepatitis flare. If hepatitis B-positive, TDF should be continued in the second-line regimen.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Prior to DTG initiation, all women and adolescent girls of childbearing potential must be appropriately counseled on the potential risk of NTDs with DTG use around conception time and provided with contraceptives as desired (see "Dolutegravir" on page 8).

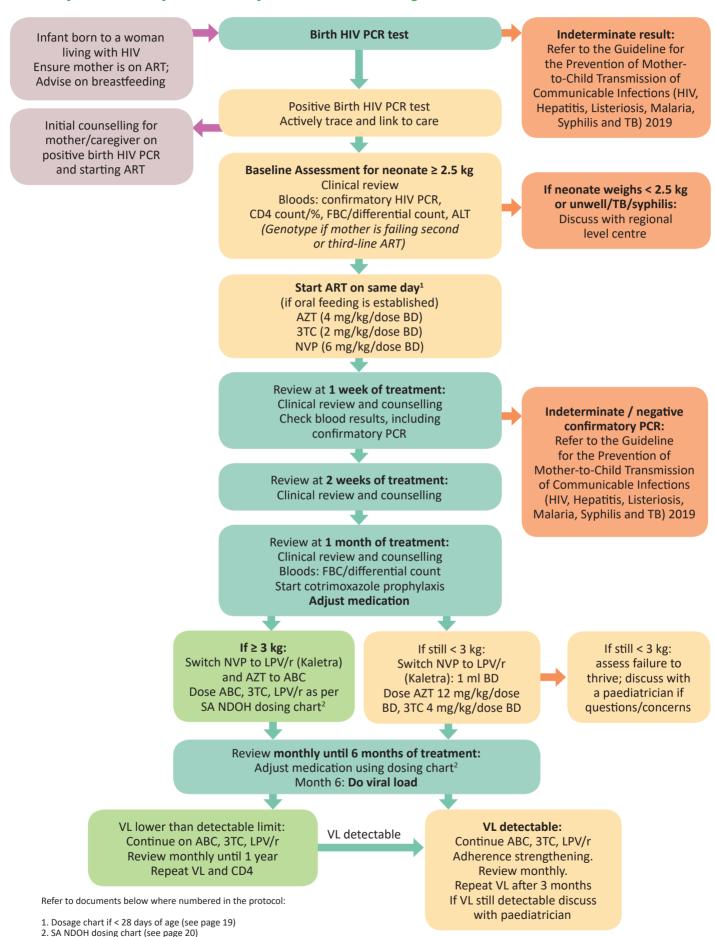
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> From the DAWNING study, DTG was shown to achieve viral suppression when used in combination with two NRTIs, at least one of which was fully active (Aboud M et al., IAS Oral abstract, 2017). It is as yet unknown if DTG will work if combined with two NRTIs, neither of which are fully active.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> In the EARNEST study, LPV/r was shown to be effective even if combined with two NRTIs that are known to have genotypic resistance (Paton, et al., N Engl J Med, 2014). For this reason, AZT is omitted from LPV/r-containing regimens when TDF is continued due to HBV co-infection. Resistant NRTIs may be recycled with an active PI if no other feasible options are available.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Resistance testing in clients failing DTG may be authorised by an expert on a case-by-case basis.



#### Protocol for initiation of ART in HIV-infected neonates ≥ 2.5 kg at birth



Please note, this protocol is meant as a guide, and there is allowance for flexibility after discussion with an expert.



## ARV Drug Dosing Chart for Children from birth - 28 days of age with birth weight ≥ 2.5 kg (≥ 35 weeks gestational age at birth)

	Lamivud	ine (3TC)	Zidovud	ine (AZT)	Nevirapi	ne (NVP)
Target dose		g/dose aily (BD)	O,	g/dose laily (BD)	O,	g/dose laily (BD)
Available formulation	10 m	g/mL	10 m	g/mL	10 m	g/mL
Weight (kg)	Dose in mL	Dose in mg	Dose in mL	Dose in mg	Dose in mL	Dose in mg
≥ 2.5 - < 3	0.5 mL BD	5 mg BD	1 mL BD	10 mg BD	1.5 mL BD	15 mg BD
≥ 3 - < 4	0.8 mL BD	8 mg BD	1.5 mL BD	15 mg BD	2 mL BD	20 mg BD
≥ 4 - < 5	1 mL BD	10 mg BD	2 mL BD	20 mg BD	3 mL BD	30 mg BD

- Dosing is based on the birth weight of the child and it is not necessary to change the dose before 28 days of age (for example if the weight decreases in the first week or two of life)
- Caregivers who will be administering ARV medication to the child must be supplied with a syringe (2 mL or 5 mL) for each of the 3 ARVs and shown how to prepare and administer the correct dose. If required, bottles and syringes should be colour coded with stickers and a sticker of the relevant colour used to mark the correct dose on the syringe.

Adapted from: Updated recommendations on first-line and second-line antiretroviral regimens and post-exposure prophylaxis and recommendations on early infant diagnosis of HIV: interim guidelines. Supplement to the 2016 consolidated guidelines on the use of antiretroviral drugs for treating and preventing HIV infection. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2018

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### **Antiretroviral Drug Dosing Chart for Children (2019)**

Compiled by Child and Adolescent Committee of SA HIV Clinicians Society in collaboration with the Department of Health

Twice daily Once daily dose  Twice daily Once daily dose  Caps/tabs 50, 200, 600 mg (not scored); formulations  PDC. TEE 300/200/600 mg 4-4.9  Avoid using when 5-5.9  < 3 years 7-7.9  Avoid using when 6-6.9  < 3 x 200 mg 6-8.9  In x 50 mg 10-10.9  In x 50 mg 11-13.9  In x 50 mg caps/tabs nocte 6-6.9  In x 50 mg 2 x 200 mg 2 3-24.9  In x 50 mg 10-10.9  In x 50 mg 11-13.9  In x 50 mg 2 x 200 mg 2 3-24.9  In x 600 mg tab 6-6.9  Av 600 mg tab 7-7.9  BC x 20 mg 2 x 20.9  In x 600 mg tab 7-8  BC x 20 mg 2 x 20.9  In x 600 mg tab 7-8  BC x 20 mg 2 x 20.9  In x 600 mg tab 7-8  BC x 20 mg 2 x 20.9  In x 600 mg tab 7-8  BC x 20 mg 2 x 20.9  In x 50 mg 2 x 20.9  In x 600 mg tab 7-8  BC x 20 mg 2 x 20.9  In x 600 mg tab 7-8  BC x 20 mg 2 x 20.9  In x 600 mg tab 7-8  BC x 20 mg 2 x 20.9  In x 600 mg tab 7-8  Av 600 mg tab 7-8  BC x 20 mg 2 x 20.9  In x 600 mg tab 7-8  Av 60	TWOKE daily	Abacavir (ABC) (3TC) (AZT)  (ABC) (AZT)  8 mg/kg/dose TWICE daily 180-240			Zidovı (AZ	.t)	Lopinavir / ritonavir (LPV/r) 300/75 ma/m²/dose LPV/r	Lopinav (and for 2 Choose one o LPV/r std dose + super-boosting with ritonavir	Lopinavir/ritonavir when on rifampicin (and for 2 weeks after stopping rifampicin) Choose one of the 3 options below as appropriate 1 std dose + LPV/r std dose + LPV/r std dose + super-boosting super-boosting with ritonavir (RTV) LPV/r tabs i	iampicin (fampicin) s appropriate Double-dose LPV/r tabs ONLY	"Atazanavir (ATV) + ritonavir (RTV) By weight	Dolutegravir (DTG) By weight	Dolutegravir when on rifampicin By weight	Efavirenz (EFV) By weight	
Tabs 50 mg (not scored); formulations (not score	Adult tabs 200/59 mg	ıf≥ ONCE daily 8 mg/kg/d	If ≥ 10 kg: 8 mg/kg/dose ONCE	o kg:	daily	mg/m²/dose <b>TWICE daily</b>	TWICE daily	(RTV) solution TWICE daily (≥ 0,75 x LPV dose bd)	powder  TWICE daily (≥ 0,75 x LPV dose bd)	if able to swallow whole LPV/r tabs TWICE daily	band ONCE daily	band ONCE daily	band <b>TWICE daily</b>	band <b>ONCE daily</b>	y Child and
Avoid using when (-5.9)  Avoid using when (-5.	and infants weighing < 3 kg	Sol. 20 mg/ml Tabs 60 mg (scored, dispersible), 300 mg (not scored), FDC: ABC/3TC 600/300 mg		mg/ml g (scored), 600/300 mg		Sol. 10 mg/ml Tabs 100 mg, 300 mg (not scored), FDC: AZT/3TC 300/150 mg	Sol. 80/20 mg/ml Adult tabs 200/50 mg, Paeds tabs 100/25 mg <b>TABLETS MUST BE</b> <b>SWALLOWED WHOLE</b>	Solution 80 mg/ml	Oral powder 100 mg/packet	Adult tabs 200/50 mg, Paed tabs 100/25 mg	ATV caps 150, 200 mg: RTV tabs 100 mg	Tabs 50 mg, FDC: TLD 300/300/50 mg	Tabs 50 mg	Caps/tabs 50, 200, 600 mg (not scored); FDC: TEE 300/200/600 mg	
Avoid ATV  Avoid using when  Avoid  Avoid	a to one tuse double-dose dose double-dose dose double-dose dose dose dose do	Currently available tablet formulatio	Currently available tablet formulation	tablet formulatio	0	ins of abacavir (excep	t 60 mg), zidovudine, lopinavir/rii	tonavir, ritonavir, dolu	ıtegravir & efavirenz mu	ist be swallowed whole	and NOT chewed,	divided or crushed			
1.1 m   bd   1.5	Do not use double-dose capsules when capsu	Con	Con	Con	Con	sult with a clinicia	n experienced in paediatric ARV	prescribing for neona	tes (< 28 days of age) an	nd infants weighing < 3	Kg.				
1.15 m  bd	Do not use double-dose LPV/r tabs  Avoid ATV  Capsules when tabs bd a tab bd a tabs bd a tabs bd a tabs bd a tab bd a tabs bd a tab bd	2 ml bd 2 ml bd 6			Ū	6 ml bd	*1 ml bd	1 ml bd							
2 m lbd	ATV 1 x 200 mg tabs bd a x 200/50 mg tabs bd a x 200/50 mg tabs bd a tab bd a tabs bd a tab	3 ml bd 3 ml bd								Do not use double-dose				Avoid using when < 10 kg or	
2 x 100/35 mg paed tabb brd (1 packet) brd (2 packet) brd (2 packet) brd (2 packet) brd (3 y 2 x 200/35 mg paed tabb brd (3 packet) brd (4 pa	A x 100/25 mg	am bd Am bd Am bd			16	pq lm 6	*1.5 ml bd	1.5 ml bd	100 mg	LPV/r tabs	Avoid ATV			< 3 years	
2 milbd  Choose only one option: 3 x 100/25 mg paed tabs bid 4 x 100/25 mg paed tabs b	Ax 100/25 mg		00	pa					(1 packet) bd		capsules when < 15 kg	:	:		
2 x 100/25 ng paed tabb am 1.5 ml bd 1 x 200 mg	3 x 100/25 mg tabs bd	Choose only one option Choose only one option 12 m			12 m	12 ml bd	2 ml bd				or < 6 years	Not currently recommended:	Not currently recommended:		
Choose only one option: 2.5 m bd   2 m bd   2 m bd   2 200 mg   4 x 100/25 mg paed tabs bd   2 1 m bd   2 200 mg   2 20	4 x 100/25 mg tabs bd	6 ml bd 0R 12 ml od 1x 100 mg tab bd 0R 2x 60 mg tabs od abs bd 4x 60 mg tabs od 0R 12 ml od 12 ml od 1x 100 mg tab bd	6 ml bd 12 ml od		1 x 100 mg	tab bd		1.5 ml bd		3 x 100/25 mg tabs bd		dosing and formulations not available	dosing and formulations not available	1 x 200 mg caps/tabs nocte	10 - 10.9
2 x 100/25 mg paed tabs bd         2 ml bd         4 x 100/25 mg tabs bd         4 x 100/25 mg tabs bd         1 x 200/90 mg tabs bd         1 x 200/90 mg tabs bd         1 x 200 mg tabs bd         1 x 200/90 mg tabs bd         1 x 50 mg tabs bd         2 x 200/90 mg tabs bd         1 x 50 mg tabs bd         2 x 200 mg tabs bd	4 × 100/25 mg tabs bd	abs od %x150 mg 1x150 mg	% x 150 mg 1 x 150 mg		2 × 100 m	නු .	Choose only one option: 2.5 ml bd								14 - 14.9
Choose only one option:         C packets) bd         2 x 200/50mg         ATV1 x 200 mg         ATV2 x 150 mg         + 2 x 50 mg         + 2 x 50 mg           2 x 100/25 mg paed tabs bd         2.5 ml bd         2.5 ml bd         2.5 ml bd         4 x 200/50 mg         ATV1 x 200 mg         1 x 50 mg         1 x 50 mg         + 2 x 50 mg           Choose only one option:         3.5 ml bd         3 ml bd         (3 packets) bd         3 x 200/50 mg         3 x 200/50 mg         2 x 200 mg         2 x 200 mg           Choose only one option:         5 ml bd         (3 packets) bd         3 x 200/50 mg         3 x 200/50 mg         2 x 200 mg         2 x 200 mg           Choose only one option:         5 ml bd         4 x 200/50 mg         4 x 200/50 mg         4 x 200/50 mg         1 x 50 mg         1 x 50 mg         2 x 200 mg           Choose only one option:         5 ml bd         4 x 200/50 mg         4 x 200/50 mg         1 x 50 mg         1 x 50 mg         2 x 200 mg           Choose only one option:         6 x 100/25 mg paed tabs bd         4 x 200/50 mg         4 x 200/50 mg         1 x 50 mg         1 x 50 mg         1 x 50 mg           Choose only one option:         0 R         4 ml bd         (4 packets) bd         4 x 200/50 mg         1 x 50 mg         1 x 50 mg         1 x 50 mg           2 x 200/50	2 x 200/50 mg tabs bd a tab bd		tab bd tab od OR OR 8 ml bd 15 ml od		1 x 100 mg tak 0 R 15 ml bd	md o		2 ml bd	200 mg	4 x 100/25 mg tabs bd				1 x 200 mg cap/tab	17 - 19.9
2 x 100/25 mg paed tabs bd         2x 100/25 mg paed tabs bd         4TV 1 x 200 mg         ATV 1 x 200 mg         ATV 1 x 200 mg         1 x 50 mg         2 x 200 mg           1 x 200/50 mg adult tab bd         3 ml bd         3 ml bd         3 x 200/50 mg         3 x 200/50 mg         2 x 200 mg         2 x 200 mg           1 x 100/25 mg paed tabs bd         1 x 100/25 mg paed tab bd         4 ml bd         4 x 200/50 mg         4 x 200/50 mg         1 x 50 mg         1 x 50 mg         1 x 50 mg         2 x 200 mg           1 x 100/25 mg paed tab bd         4 ml bd         4 00 mg         4 x 200/50 mg         1 x 50 mg         1	### ATV 1 x 200 mg    RTV 1 x 200 mg   Cap od + RTV 1 x 100 mg   tab od	1 x 300 mg tab + 1 x 60 mg 1 x 150 mg 2 x tab od tab bd ta	1 x 150 mg 2 x 150 mg tab od tab od		2 x 100 mg tab	pq s	Choose only one option: 3 ml bd OR	, c	(2 packets) bd	2 x 200/50 mg tabs bd				+ 2 × 50 mg caps/tabs nocte	20 - 22.9
Choose only one option:  3.5 ml bd  3.00 mg  3.100/25 mg paed tabs bd  1 x 100/25 mg paed tabs bd  1 x 100/25 mg paed tabs bd  4 x 100/25 mg paed tabs bd  5 ml bd  4 x 100/25 mg paed tabs bd  6 x 100/25 mg  1 x 50 mg  2 x 200 mg  2 x 2	6 x 100/25 mg tab bd tab bd tab bd tab bd tab bd tabs bd 0 RV 2 x 150 mg tab bd 2 x 200 mg tabs bd 2 x 200 mg tabs bd 2 x 200 mg tabs bd 2 x 200 mg tab bd 0 RV 2 x 150 mg tab bd 0 RD: TLD if 0 mocte 0 RB x 100/25 mg tab bd 0 RD: TLD if 1 x 50 mg tab bd 0 RD: TLD if 1 x 600 mg ta	3 x 60 mg	OR OR 15 ml bd 30 ml od		20 ml bd		$2 \times 100/25$ mg paed tabs bd OR $1 \times 200/50$ mg adult tab bd	0.5			ATV 1 x 200 mg cap od + RTV 1 x 100 mg tab od				23 - 24.9
3 x 100/25 ng paed tabs bd 3 ml bd 3 200 mg	3 x 200/50 mg tabs bd tabs bd ATV 2 x 150 mg tabs bd ATV 2 x 150 mg tabs bd tabs bd tabs bd tab bd ATV 2 x 150 mg tab bd The cap od + RTV OR Eligible od tab						Choose only one option: 3.5 ml bd OR			6 x 100/25 mg		1 x 50 mg tab od	1 x 50 mg tab bd		
1 x 100/25 mg paed tab bd       thi bd       4 x 200/50 mg       4 x 200/50 mg       1 x 50 mg	4 x 200/50 mg tabs bd tab bd t						3 x 100/25 mg <b>paed tabs</b> bd OR +1 x 200/50 mg a <b>dult tab</b> bd	3 ml bd	300 mg (3 packets) bd	OR OR 3 x 200/50 mg tabs bd				2 x 200 mg caps/tabs nocte	25 - 29.9
Choose only one option: 5 ml bd 5 ml bd 200 mg 4 x 200/50 mg 4 x 100/25 mg paed tabs bd 4 ml bd 4 ml bd 4 ml bd 4 ml bd 4 x 100/25 mg paed tabs bd 4 ml bd 2 x 200/50 mg adult tabs bd 4 mg bd	1 x 50 mg	2 x 300 mg tabs od tabs od 1 x 150 mg	2 x 150 mg tab od tab od 1 x 150 mg OR		$1 \times 300 \text{ mg tab}$ OR $1 \times \text{AZT/3TC}$	pq	1 x 100/25 mg paed tab bd								30 - 34.9
4 ml bd 400 mg tabs bd ATV 2 x 150 mg 1 x 500 mg tab OR 1 x 600 mg tab OR (4 packets) bd 8 x 100/25 mg 1 x 100 mg FDC: TLD if nocte OR tab od 12 hours after of the control of tab od 12 hours after of the control of tab od 12 hours after of tab od	Tabs bd	tab bd	tab bd 1 x ABC/3TC 600/300 mg tab od		300/150 m tab bd	, po	Choose only one option: 5 ml hd			4 x 200/50 mg		, t	1 x 50 mg tab bd		35 - 39.9
13 hours after	12 hours after eligible od nocte TLD dose Weight (let) 3.59 6.139 14.249						OR 4 x 100/25 mg paed tabs bd OR -2 x 200/50 mg adult tabs bd	4 ml bd	400 mg (4 packets) bd	tabs bu OR 8 x 100/25 mg tabs bd	ATV 2 x 150 mg cap od + RTV 1 x 100 mg tab od	tab od OR FDC: TLD if	OR FDC: TLD if eligible od + 50 mg	1 x 600 mg tab nocte OR FDC: TEE if	≥ 40

2 tabs od 10 ml od

10 ml or 1 tab od

5 ml or ½ tab od

2.5 ml od

Cotrimoxazole Dose

\* Avoid LPV/rtv solution in any full-term infant < 14 days of age and any premature infant < 42 weeks postconceptual age (corrected gestational age) or obtain expert advice.

\* Children weighing 25-29 9 kg may also be dosed with LPV/r 200/50 mg adult tabs: 2 tabs am + 1 tab pm.

\* Atazanavir + ritonavir should not be used in children/abdosecarts on treatment with rifampicin, obtain expert advice.

No dosage adjustments are required for children receiving treatment with efavirenz and rifampicin

Abbreviations: od, once a day; nocte, at night; bd, wice a day; am, in the morning; pm, in the evening; std, standard; FDC, fixed dose combination;

TLD, tenofovir/lamivudine/dolutegravir; TEE, tenofovir/emtricitabine/efavirenz



ARV Drug	Formulations (as used in dosing chart)	Can tablets be split/crushed if unable to swallow?	Comment
Abacavir (ABC)	Oral solution: 20 mg/ml Tablets: 60 mg, 300 mg FDC tablet: ABC/3TC 600/300 mg	Tablets: YES Limited data on FDC, preferably swallow whole	Hypersensitivity reaction (fever, rash, GIT & respiratory symptoms) may occur during first 6 weeks of therapy, very uncommon in black African patients. Symptoms typically worsen in the hours immediately after the dose and after each subsequent dose. Caregivers or patients should discuss symptoms early with the clinician rather than stopping therapy. Stop ABC permanently if hypersensitivity reaction has occurred.
Lamivudine (3TC)	Oral solution: 10 mg/ml Tablets: 150 mg; FDC tablets: ABC/3TC 600/300 mg, TLD 300/300/50 mg	or use inaviaual arugs.	Well tolerated, adverse-effects uncommon. Pure red cell aplasia causing anaemia can occur but is very rare.
Zidovudine (AZT)	Oral solution: 10 mg/ml Tablets: 100 mg, 300 mg Capsules: 100 mg FDC tablet: AZT/3TC 300/150 mg	Tablets and FDC: <b>YES</b> Capsules: <b>YES</b> . Open and add to a small amount of soft food/liquid and ingest immediately.	Avoid or use with caution in neonates or children with anaemia (Hb < 8 g/dl) due to potential to cause bone marrow suppression.
Tenofovir (TDF)	Tablets: 300 mg FDC tablets: TDF/FTC 300/200 mg, TEE 300/200/600 mg, TDF/3TC/EFV 300/300/600 mg, TLD 300/300/50 mg	Data is lacking: preferably swallow whole or use individual drugs.	TDF may be prescribed for adolescents ≥ 10 years of age AND ≥ 35 kg body weight after ensuring adequate renal function by checking eGFR/creatinine using the appropriate formula (refer to 2019 ART Clinical Guidelines). TDF is usually prescribed as part of an FDC tablet: TDF/FTC, TDF/FTC/EFV, TDF/3TC/EFV or TDF/3TC/DTG. To assess for TDF-induced nephrotoxicity, do creatinine and eGFR at months 3, 6 and 12 and thereafter repeat every 12 months.
Lopinavir/ritonavir (LPV/r)	Oral solution: 80/20 mg/ml Tablets: 200/50 mg, 100/25 mg	Tablets: NO	Oral solution should be refrigerated/stored at room temperature (if < 25°C) for up to 6 weeks. Preferably administer oral solution with food as increases absorption. Strategies to improve tolerance and palatability of oral solution: coat mouth with peanut butter, dull taste buds with ice, follow dose with sweet foods. LPV/r has many drug-drug interactions. #
Ritonavir (RTV)	Oral solution: 80 mg/ml Oral powder: 100 mg/packet Tablets: 100 mg	Must be swallowed whole and not divided, crushed or chewed.	Ritonavir oral solution should be stored at room temperature. It's shelf-life is approximately 6 months. Strategies to improve tolerance and palatability of oral solution: coat mouth with peanut butter, dull taste buds with ice, follow dose with sweet foods. Each 100 mg packet of RTV powder should be mixed with a small amount of water or soft food and immediately ingested. RTV has many drug-drug interactions. #
Atazanavir (ATV)	Capsules: 150 mg, 200 mg	Capsules: NO Must be swallowed whole and not divided, crushed or chewed.	ATV is used in combination with RTV which must be dosed separately as a co-formulation is not available. May cause unconjugated hyperbilirubinaemia resulting in jaundice, but this does not indicate hepatic toxicity and is not a reason to discontinue the drug unless it is worrying the patient. Consider drug-drug interactions. #
Dolutegravir (DTG)	Tablets: 50 mg FDC tablet: TLD 300/300/50 mg	Tablet: <b>YES</b> Data on crushing FDC tablet is lacking: swallow whole or use individual drugs.	Iron supplements decrease DTG concentrations if taken together on an empty stomach. To prevent this, DTG and iron supplements can be taken at the same time if taken <b>with food</b> . It may be helpful to administer as a morning dose rather than an evening dose if insomnia occurs with evening dosing. DTG may raise creatinine levels by up to 15% without affecting renal function. Consider drug-drug interactions. #
Efavirenz (EFV)	Capsules: 50 mg, 200 mg Tablets: 50 mg, 200 mg, 600 mg FDC tablet: TEE 300/200/600 mg	Tablets: NO  Must be swallowed whole and not divided, crushed or chewed. Capsules: YES. Open and add to small amount of soft food and ingest immediately.	Best given at bedtime to reduce CNS side-effects, especially during first 2 weeks. Consider drug-drug interactions. $^{\#}$

FDC = fixed dose combination; eGFR = estimated glomerular filtration rate; GIT = gastrointestinal tract; TEE = Tenofovir/Emtricitabine/Efavirenz; TLD = Tenofovir/Lamivudine/Dolutegravir;

<sup>&</sup>quot; EML-Antiretroviral interactions table (http://www.mic.uct.ac.za) OR www.hiv-druginteractions. org/checker OR the Liverpool HIV iChart application for smart phones, or any of the helplines: National HIV and TB Health Care Worker Hotline: 0800 212 506 or Right to Care Paediatric and Adolescent HIV Helpline: 082 352 6642 and KZN Paediatric Hotline: 0800 006 603



#### **Adverse Drug Reactions**

Surveillance of all adverse drug reactions (ADRs) is fundamental. Active surveillance, especially amongst pregnant women choosing to take DTG, has become imperative. Healthcare professionals and consumers in South Africa are urged to report any ADRs to the National Adverse Drug Event Monitoring Centre at (021) 447 1618, or SAHPRA pharmacovigilance office at (012) 395 9133/8197/8155 or NDoH Pharmacovigilance Centre for Public Health Programmes at npc@health.gov.za / (012) 395 9506 using the ADR reporting form.

#### **Drug Stock-outs**

To report drug stock-outs, or for assistance with drug stock-outs, please contact Stop Stockouts: SMS/please call me/WhatsApp (084) 855-7867 Email: reports@stockouts.org

#### **Resources for Clinical Management and Drug Interactions**

National HIV & TB Health Care Worker Hotline: 0800 212506 Email pha-mic@uct.ac.za SMS/please call me/WhatsApp (071) 840-1572

Right to Care Paediatric and Adolescent HIV Helpline (082) 352-6642 Right to Care Adult HIV Helpline (082) 957-6698 Both Right to Care Helplines can be contacted via call/ SMS/please call me/WhatsApp

**KZN Paediatric Hotline:** 0800 006 603

### Disclaimer:

The information presented in these guidelines conforms to the current medical, nursing and pharmaceutical practice.

Contributors and editors cannot be held responsible for errors, individual responses to medicines, and other consequences.

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3TC Lamivudine ABC Abacavir

ALT Alanine transaminase
ANC Antenatal Care
APC Adult Primary Care
ART Antiretroviral therapy
ARV Antiretroviral

ARV Antiretroviral ATV/r Atazanavir/ritonavir

AZT Zidovudine bd Twice daily BMI Body mass index

CCMDD Central Chronic Medicines Dispensing and Distribution

CM Cryptococcal meningitis CNS Central nervous system

CPT Cotrimoxazole preventive therapy

CrAg Cryptococcal Antigen
CVS Cardiovascular

DILI Drug-induced liver injury

DR Drug-resistant
DS Drug-sensitive
DTG Dolutegravir

eGFR Estimated glomerular filtration rate

EFV Efavirenz

FDC Fixed-dose combination

Hb Haemoglobin

HBsAg Hepatitis B surface antigen

HBV Hepatitis B virus

InSTI Integrase strand transfer inhibitor

IRIS Immune reconstitution inflammatory syndrome

IUCD Intrauterine contraceptive device

LPV/r Lopinavir/ritonavir

MTCT Mother-to-child transmission MUAC Mid-upper arm circumference

NA Not applicable

NCDs Non-communicable diseases

NNRTI Non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor
NRTI Nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor

NTDs Neural tube defects

NVP Nevirapine od Once daily

OI Opportunistic infection

PCR Polymerase chain reaction test for HIV
PHC EML Primary Health Care Essential Medicines List

PI Protease inhibitor
PLHIV People living with HIV
sCR Serum creatinine

STIs Sexually transmitted infections

TB Tuberculosis

TDF Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate
TEE Tenofovir + emtricitabine + efavirenz
TLD Tenofovir + lamivudine + dolutegravir
TLE Tenofovir + lamivudine + efavirenz

TPT TB preventive treatment

VL Viral load

WHO World Health Organisation
WOCP Women of childbearing potential

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