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Reference:

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

AND CHILD CARE

P.O. Box CY1122

Causeway

Zimbabwe

24 April, 2019

**MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND CHILD CARE ATP CIRCULAR NUMBER  
1/2019 OF 2019**

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Attention: All Provincial Medical Directors  
All Chief Executive Officers – Central Hospitals  
All Medical Superintendents  
All City Health Directors  
All Implementing Partners

**REF: ADDENDUM TO THE 2016 NATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR  
ANTIRETROVIRAL THERAPY FOR THE PREVENTION, TREATMENT  
AND CARE OF HIV IN ZIMBABWE**

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As a follow up to successful adaptation processes of the 2018 World Health Organization HIV Policy Brief which contained updated recommendations on First Line, Second Line ART, Third Line ART and Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) together with the 2018 WHO Guidelines on the Management of Latent TB Infection; the Ministry of Health and Child Care wishes to provide updates to all its key stakeholders on changes that have been effected to existing 2016 national ART guidelines.

These changes which have been consolidated into an addendum to the 2016 National Guidelines for Antiretroviral Therapy for the Prevention, Treatment and Care of HIV in Zimbabwe and have to be used as part of the already existing national ART guidelines. **(see Addendum attached)**

Due to resource constrains, a phased-approach will be employed in introduction of Dolutegravir (DTG) based treatment regimens for 1st and 2nd line ART clients over the next 12 months, as follows:

- All 'eligible' new ART clients starting from May 2019
- All 'eligible' existing clients on ART after Aug 2019.

Health workers at all levels are therefore advised to follow this guidance until further notice is issued in order to prevent ARV drug supply interruptions. The Ministry will provide updates on stock status in due course. Sensitization activities on the new guidance started off at national level with provincial and district representatives and hence you are advised to support the cascading of the updates to reach all the front line health providers to facilitate quality service provision as we transition to newer medicines.

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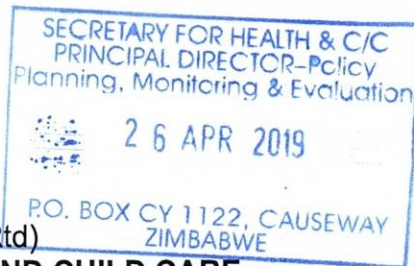
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Thank you for your unwavering support in the fight against HIV and AIDS and in supporting compliance to implementing evidence-informed recommendations.

Yours faithfully,



Major General (Dr) G. Gwinji (Rtd)  
**SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND CHILD CARE**

cc. Dr G Mhlanga, Principal Director Preventive Services  
cc. Dr. O Mugurungi, Director HIV/AIDS, STIs and TB Programmes  
cc. Mrs. R. Hove, Director Pharmacy Services