

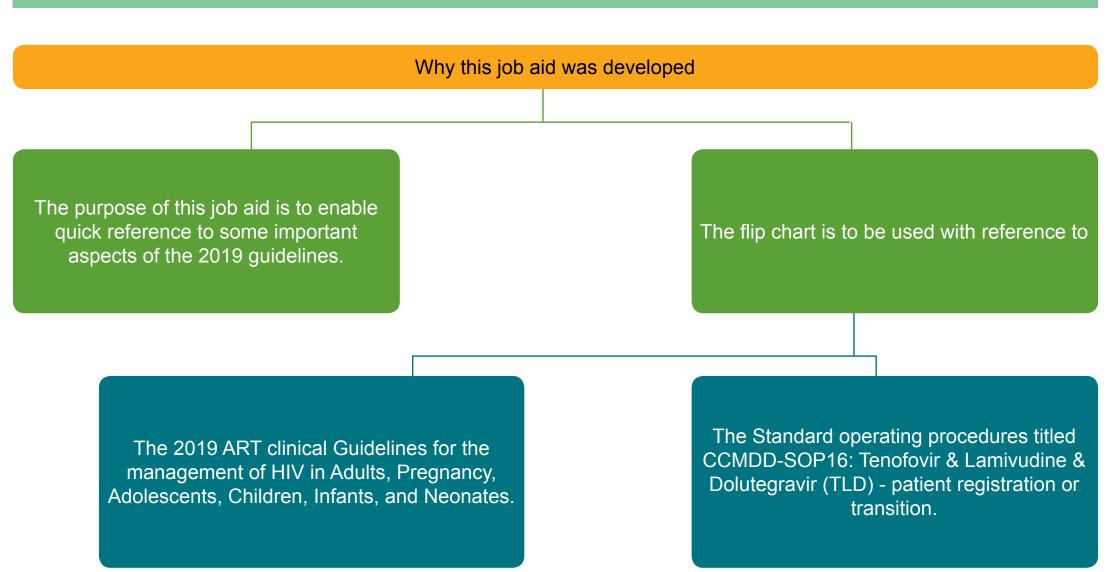






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Guidance on this job aid



Dolutegravir



An Integrase inhibitor – can be used in children from a weight of 20kg

TLD = TDF, 3TC, DTG: A fixed dose combination, to be used in persons ≥ 10 years and ≥ 35kg

PROPERTY OF DTG	DESCRIPTION
EFFICACY	Among the treatment naïve patients, DTG is superior to both efavirenz (EFV) and ritonavir-boosted darunavir.
TOLERANCE	Better tolerated and tends to be protective against treatment discontinuation due to fewer adverse events (AEs)
SAFETY	Most adverse effects are mild and self limiting (<5%) Pharmacovigilance is essential with new drug introduction
DRUG RESISTANCE	High barrier to resistance
METABOLISM	No need to adjust for renal dysfunction
соѕт	The prices of DTG formulations are 10–15% lower than current EFV based regimens

Benefits and risks of DTG vs EFV

Benefits of using DTG	Risks of using DTG	
Provides rapid viral suppression	DTG may increase the risk of neural tube defects (NTDs) if used before or in the first six weeks of pregnancy	
High genetic barrier to resistance		
No interaction with hormonal contraceptives	Drug interactions with rifampicin, metformin,anticonvulsants, and polyvalent cations (Mg2+, Fe2+, Ca2+, etc.)	
Side effects are mild and uncommon		

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

Contraceptive options need to be available to women of reproductive potential on DTG













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

Contraceptive choices need to **respect human rights** and enable the clients to make informed choices for themselves. Clients should be given comprehensive, scientifically accurate information in order to assist them to make an informed, voluntary choice of a contraceptive method.

Drug interactions with Dolutegravir

Interacting Drug	Effect of Co-Administration	Recommendation
Rifampicin	Dolutegravir	Double DTG dose to 50mg 12-hourly. If on TLD FDC, add DTG 50mg 12 hours after TLD dose
Anticonvulsants: • Carbamazepine • Phenobarbital • Phenytoin	Dolutegravir	Avoid co-administration if possible (sodium valproate, lamotrigine, levetiracetam, and topiramate do not interact with DTG, and can be used). Double DTG dose to 50mg 12-hourly for carbamazepine if alternative anticonvulsant cannot be used
Metformin	1 Metformin	DTG increases metformin dose Maximum metformin dose should be 500mg 12-hourly

Polyvalent cations - significant interactions (Mg²⁺, Fe²⁺, Ca²⁺, Al³⁺, Zn²⁺) e.g. antacids, sucralfate, multivitamin and nutritional supplements

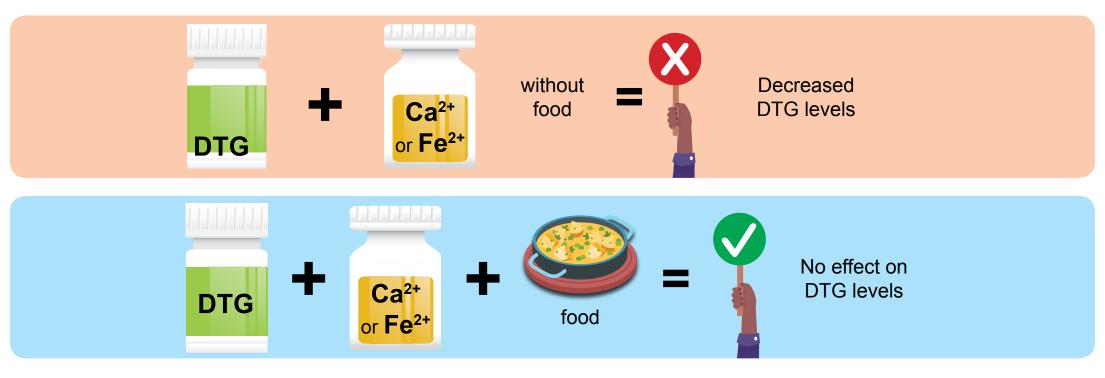
- Calcium supplements decrease DTG concentrations if taken together on an empty stomach.
- Iron supplements decrease DTG concentrations if taken together on an empty stomach.
- Magnesium/aluminium containing antacids decrease DTG concentrations regardless of food intake and should be taken a minimum of 2 hours after or 6 hours before DTG

Drug interactions can result in suboptimal drug levels which can cause

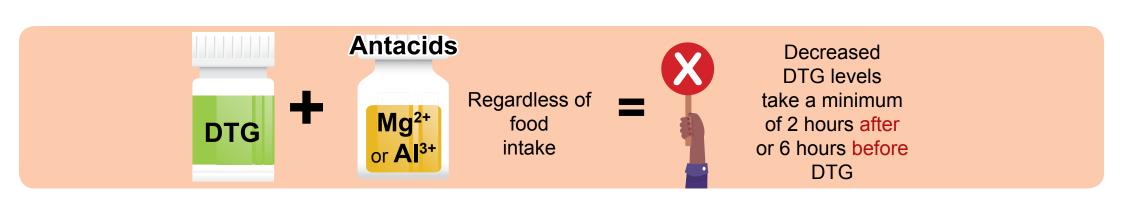
- 1. An elevated viral load
- 2. Drug resistance due to low drug pressure

Drug interactions between DTG and the polyvalent cations

(calcium/iron supplements and antacids)



However, calcium (Ca²⁺) and iron (Fe²⁺) must be taken 4 hours apart



Suggested Dosing Schedule

DTG (TLD) can be taken in the morning or evening with calcium and with food. If insomnia is experienced, dose in the morning



Option 1

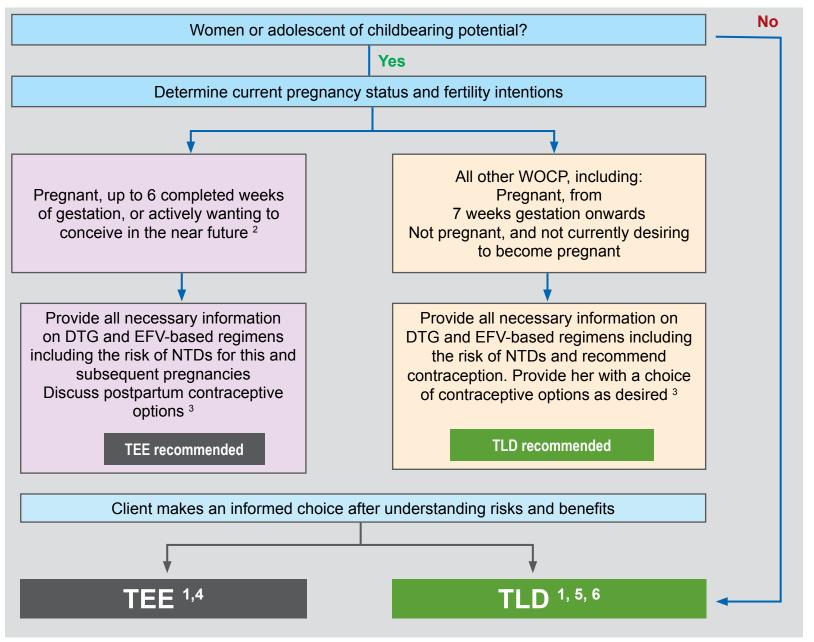
- DTG + Calcium 500mg + food in the morning
- Ferrous sulphate 200mg at lunch with food (better tolerated)
- Calcium 500mg in the evening



Option 2

- Calcium 500mg + food in the morning
- Ferrous sulphate 200mg at lunch with food (better tolerated)
- DTG + Calcium 500mg with food in the evening

Adult women and adolescent girls at least 35kg and 10 years of age



Considerations for women of childbearing potential

- Do not use tenofovir in adolescent girls weighing < 35kg. Use Abacavir
- Start folate for women wanting to conceive but advise to defer conception until they are virally suppressed
- 3. Provide options form a comprehensive contraceptive commodity mix
- 4. IF TEE is used around conception, a switch to TLD can be offered if VL is suppressed.
- 5. Counsel the woman on use of DTG
- 6. A switch from TLD to TEE can be offered if a women wants to conceive and is concerned about NTDs

Enabling a Client to make an Informed Choice

The clinician should enable a client to make an informed choice by doing the following:





- Understand her current pregnancy status and fertility intentions:
 - O Is she pregnant? If so, at what gestation?
 - O If not, does she desire a pregnancy now?



2

Explain the risks and benefits of DTG vs EFV

0.3% risk for NTD on DTG
vs
0.1% risk of NTD on EFV

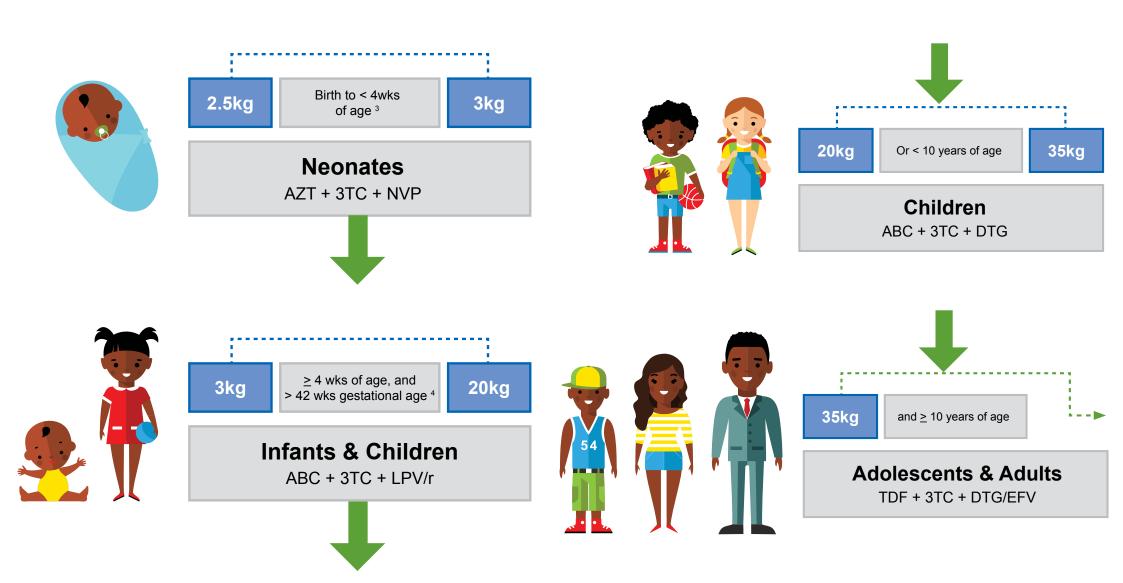


- 3
- Discuss and provide a choice of contraceptive options as desired
- Remember that dual methods are recommended

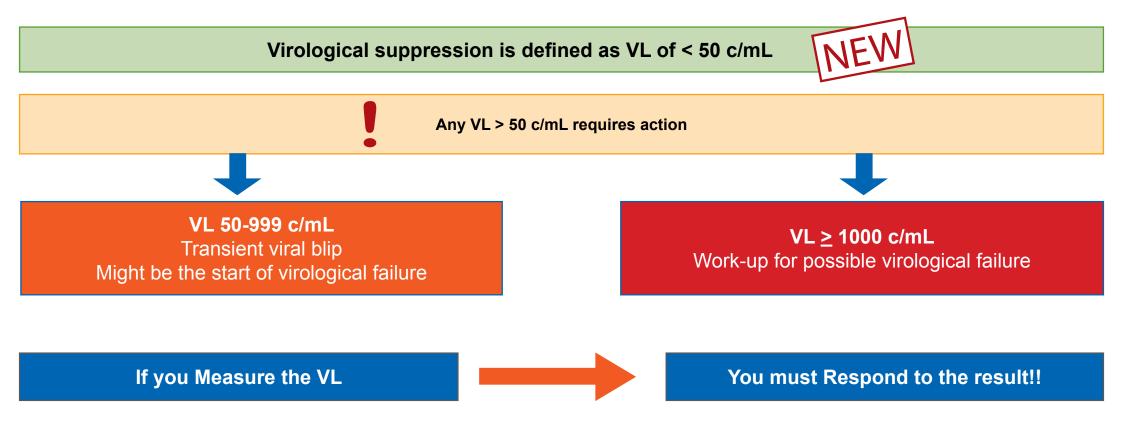
Summary of 1st Line Regimens

Integration of ART and Family Planning services essential!

Neonates, Infants & Children 0 to < 10 years of Age, Adolescents and Adults



Important principles in VL Monitoring



A thorough assessment is essential for any patient with a viral load measuring ≥ 50c/mL

- Implement interventions
- Repeat VL testing to confirm VL re-suppression

Important principle when considering single drug substitutions



Never change only one drug in a failing regimen!

Remember... The threshold for failure is 1000 c/mL

VL < 50 c/mL Virological suppression



Safe to switch one drug in the regimen?

Yes!!

VL 50 999 c/mL
Transient viral blip
Might be the start of virological
failure



Safe to switch one drug?

Unclear!

Do a thorough assessment and counselling, repeat VL in

3 months if still

50-999 c/mL,

can switch

VL ≥ 1000 c/mL
Work-up for possible virological failure



Safe to switch one drug?

No!!

Work-up for possible failure

Switch to 2nd line

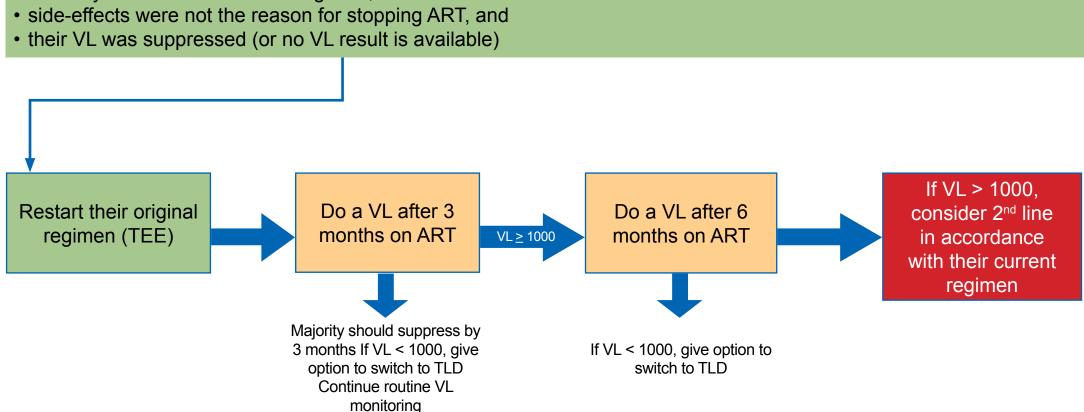
Re-initiating ART in Treatment Interrupters

Take a thorough history including:

- which drugs the client was taking, and for how long;
- the reasons for stopping ART;
- · side-effects; and
- any information on VL measurements whilst on ART.

If the patient was

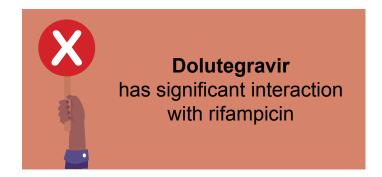
• clinically well on their first-line regimen,



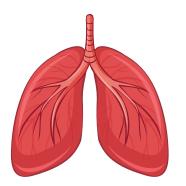
Dual Treatment of HIV and Active TB



Efavirenz
has no significant interaction
with rifampicin



Therefore, TB/HIV co-infection impacts on ART drug selection as follows:



TB Treatment started first

Clients who are **not yet on ART** when TB treatment is initiated



Initiate ART with an EFV-containing regimen





ART started first

Clients who are already on ART when TB treatment is initiated



Adults who are already on an EFV-containing regimen

• continue the EFV-containing regimen



Clients who are already on a DTG-containing regimen

remain on DTG and boost DTG dose to
 50 mg bd



Summary of the changes in the new PMTCT Guideline (2019)



Central Theme: Maternal Viral Load Suppression

Other cross cutting themes

Linking with HIV Prevention and Family Planning services
Integrating services for the mother-infant-pair
Promoting and protecting breastfeeding

Specific Changes

Antenatal care

HIV-negative: HIV testing monthly at every full BANCPlus visit

Dolutegravir

- Potent VL suppressor
- Risk for NTDs
- Drug interactions

TB Screening and TPT

- Symptom screen and TB GeneXpert regardless of symptoms
- TPT during pregnancy if CD4 < 350

Labour and delivery

Delivery-VL for all HIV+ women

Stat NVP and TLD for women presenting in labour not on ART

Provide mother with 2 months ART supply at discharge

TLD= Tenofovir, lamivudine, dolutegravir

Postpartum Care and Breastfeeding

High risk infant prophylaxis (also given during BF if new diagnosis or high viral load):

- AZT for 6w
- NVP for minimum of 12w, until maternal VL suppressed

Breastfeeding for 24 months or longer in the context of viral suppression and enhanced infant prophylaxis

HIV-PCR at birth and 10 weeks remain HIV-PCR at 6 months for all HIV-exposed Maternal VL at 6 months and 6-monthly 18 month rapid/ELISA for all children HIV confirmation with PCR until 24m

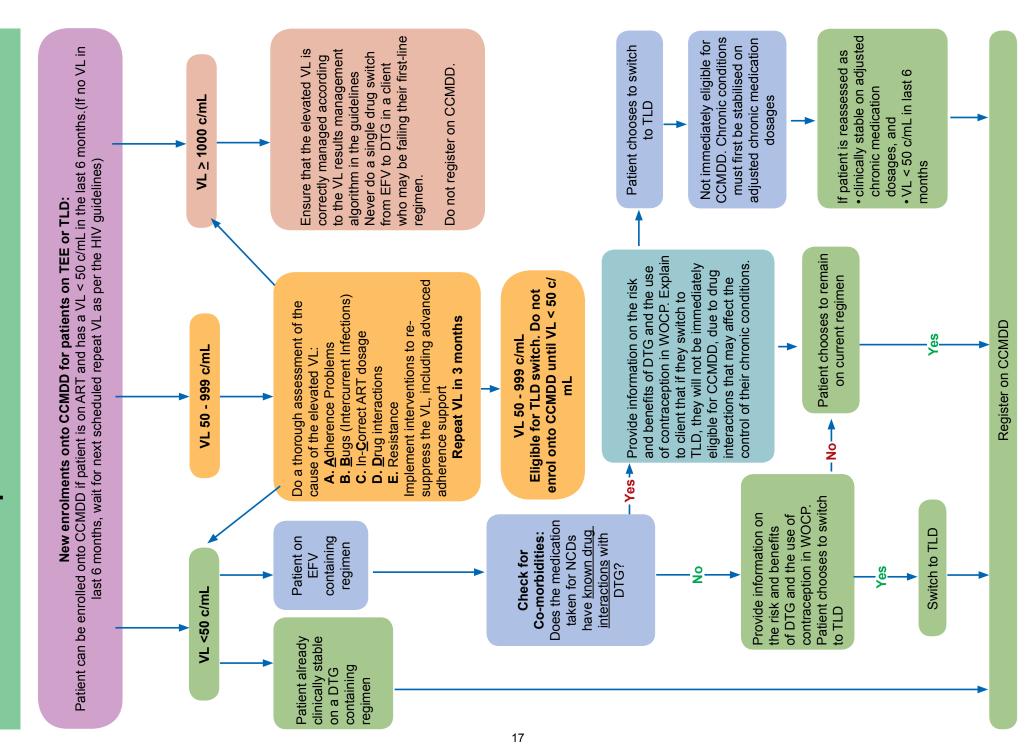
Electronic gate keeping codes (to prevent VL rejection):

C#PMTCT

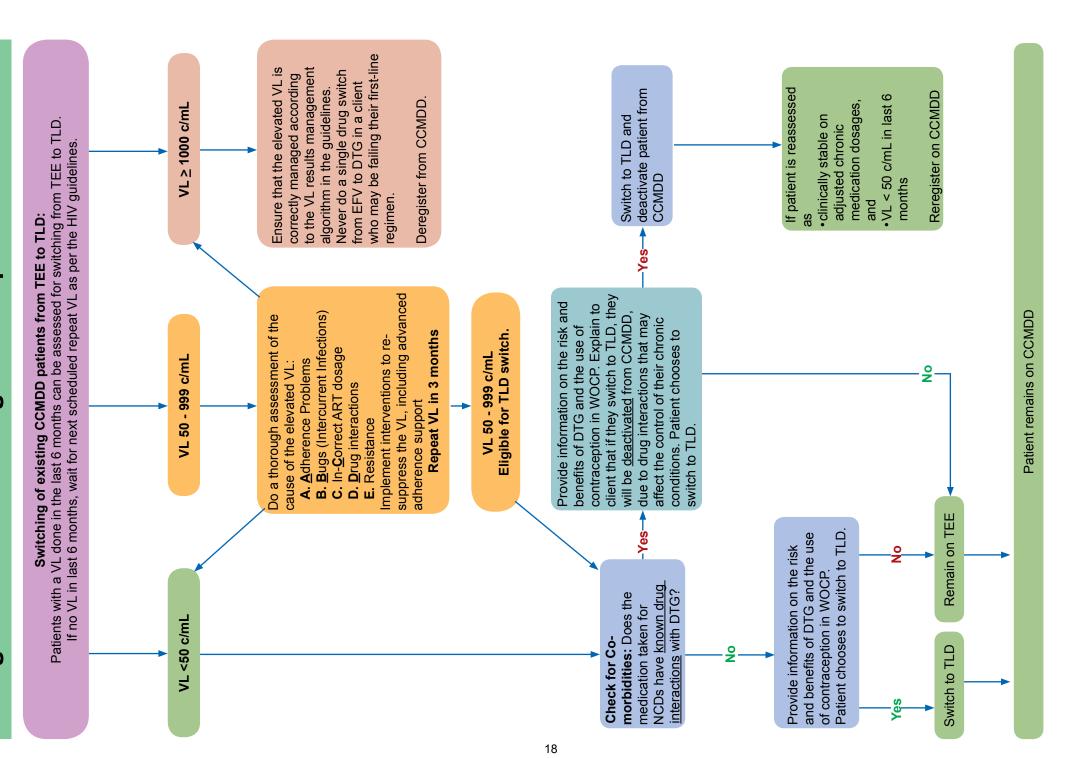
(during ANC & breastfeeding)

C#Delivery (at delivery)

Algorithm for new enrolments into CCMDD for patients on TEE or TLD



Algorithm for switching CCMDD patients to TLD



Repeat Prescription Collection Strategies (RPCs) Differentiated Model of Care (DMoC)



Facility Pick-up Point: FAC-PUP (SOP 4)



Adherence clubs: AC (SOP 5)



External Pick-up Point: EX-PUP (SOP 6)



- Decanting of stable patients at 6 months (New criteria)
- Eligibility criteria for all RPCs revised (Refer to AGL SOP)
- CCMDD now recognised as supply system for ALL Repeat Prescription Collection strategy (RPCs).
- FAC PuP and Adherence Clubs can also be pre-packed by facility/central dispensing unit (CDU).
- SOP 6 now called External Pick-up Point (EX-PUP)
- RPCs benefit from multi-month supply with annual visit schedule includes 2 and 3-month treatment supply annual schedules
- Same criteria for return to regular care across all RPCs

Eligibility Criteria

Adults

- Above 18 years
- · On treatment for at least 6 months
- Most recent viral load (VL) taken in past 6 months
- < 50 copies/ml for HIV
- Most recent HbA1c taken in past 6 months < 7% for Diabetes
- 2 consecutive BP < 140/90 for Hypertension

Children and Adolescents

- 5 18 years
- On ART for at least 6 months with no regimen or dosage change in the last 3 months
- Most recent VL taken in past 6 months < 50 copies/ml
- Care givers counselled on disclosure process
- Patient (>12 years/caregiver if patient<12 years)
 voluntarily opts for the RPCs option

We would like to acknowledge the involvement of the following organisations with the development of this flip chart:









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