



# BHIVA Hepatology Highlights for the Healthcare Specialist

*in collaboration with the British Viral Hepatitis Group*

15 November 2017 • QEl Centre, London

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# Dr Nathan Ford

World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland

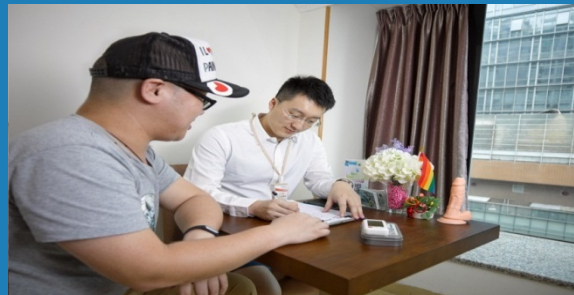
Speaker Name	Statement
Dr Nathan Ford	None
Date : November	November 2017

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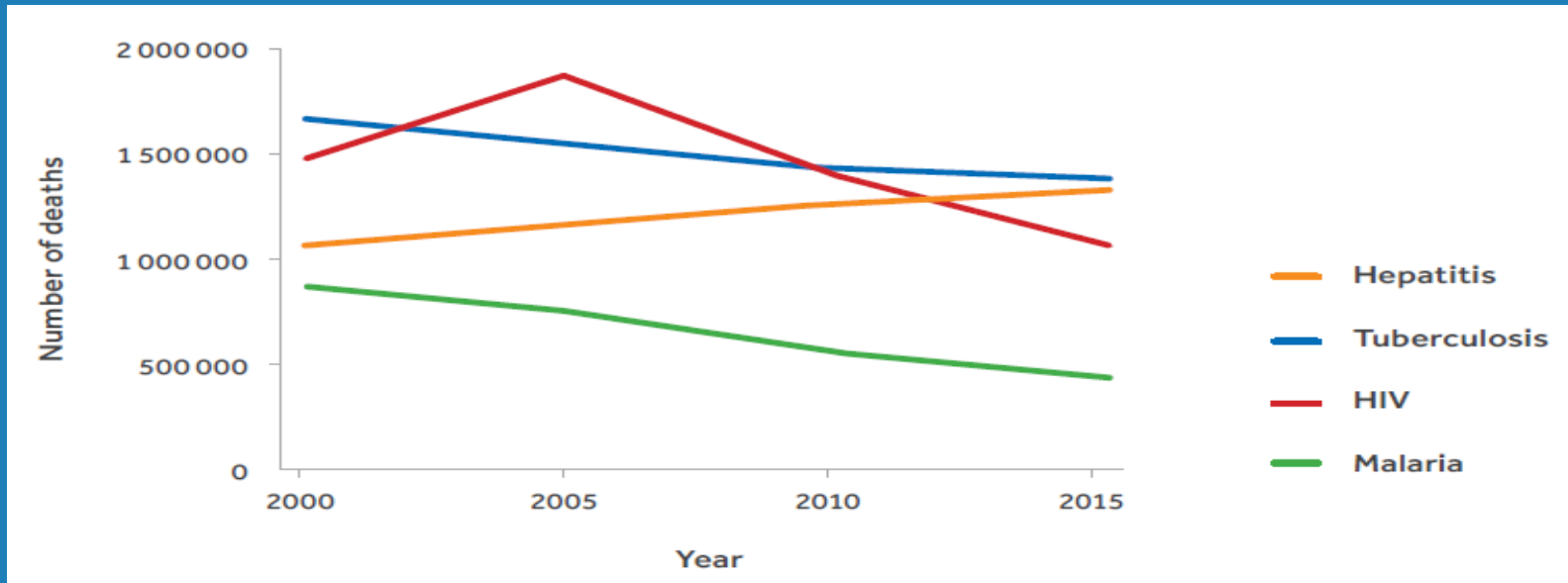
15 November 2017 • QEII Centre, London

# What can hepatitis learn from HIV as we look to elimination?

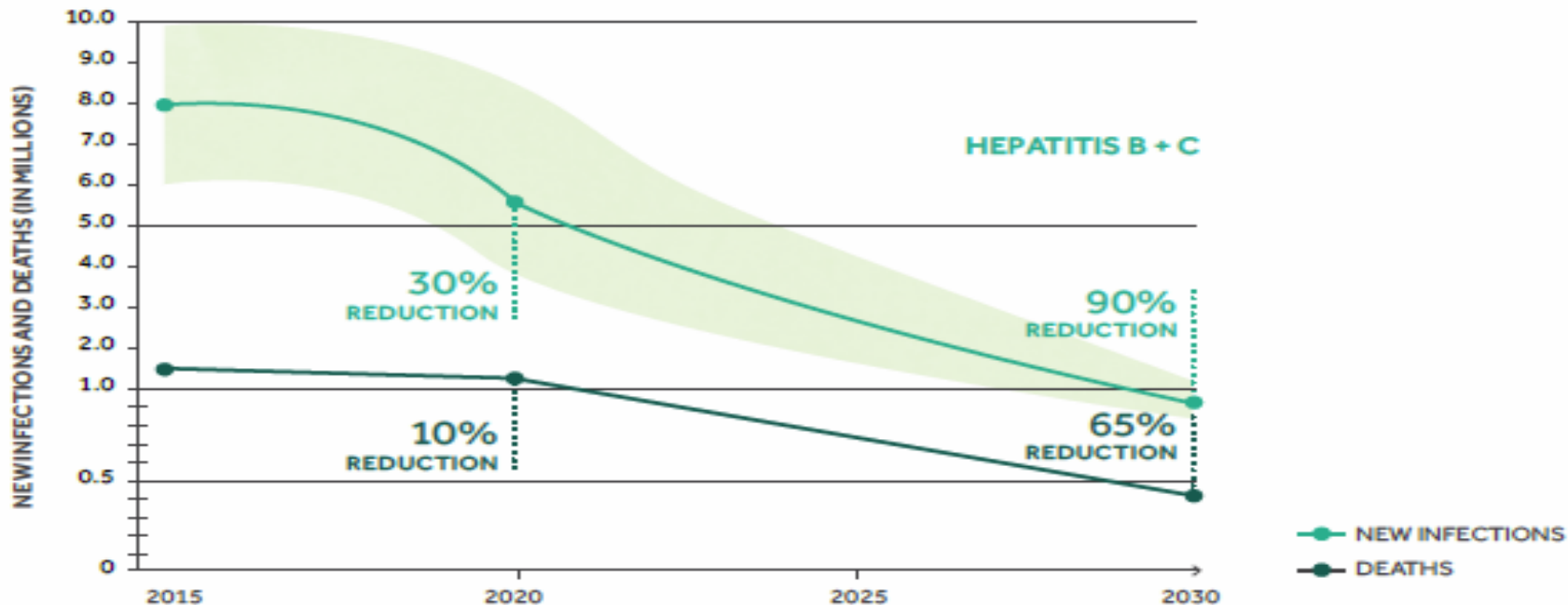
Nathan Ford  
Dept HIV & Global Hepatitis Programme



# Hepatitis-related mortality is increasing



# Elimination of viral hepatitis as a public health threat by 2030



# The public health approach to HIV treatment and care

## Public Health

### The WHO public-health approach to antiretroviral treatment against HIV in resource-limited settings

Charles F Gilks, Siobhan Crowley, René Ekpini, Sandy Gave, Jos Perriens, Yves Sauteyrand, Don Sutherland, Marco Vitoria, Teguest Guerra, Kevin De Cock

WHO has proposed a public-health approach to antiretroviral therapy (ART) to enable scaling-up access to treatment for HIV-positive people in developing countries, recognising that the western model of specialist physician management and advanced laboratory monitoring is not feasible in resource-poor settings. In this approach, standardised simplified treatment protocols and decentralised service delivery enable treatment to be delivered to large numbers of HIV-positive adults and children through the public and private sector. Simplified tools and approaches to clinical decision-making, centred on the “four S’s”—when to start drug treatment; substitute for toxicity; switch after treatment failure; and stop—enable lower level health-care workers to deliver care. Simple limited formularies have driven large-scale production of fixed-dose combinations for first-line treatment for adults and lowered prices, but to ensure access to ART in the poorest countries, the care and drugs should be given free at point of service delivery. Population-based surveillance for acquired and transmitted resistance is needed to address concerns that switching regimens on the basis of clinical criteria for failure alone could lead to widespread emergence of drug-resistant virus strains. The integrated management of adult or childhood illness (IMAI/IMCI) facilitates decentralised implementation that is integrated within existing health systems. Simplified operational guidelines, tools, and training materials enable clinical teams in primary care and second-level facilities to deliver HIV prevention, HIV care, and ART, and to use a standardised patient-tracking system.

#### Background

Around 40 million people worldwide are thought to be infected with HIV. Many of these people live in developing countries. Since 2001, the WHO has been promoting a public-health approach to antiretroviral therapy (ART) to improve access in resource-poor settings. Existing guidelines for ART<sup>1</sup> and the prevention of mother-to-child transmission<sup>2</sup> were revised earlier this year, and separate guidelines for treating children were developed.<sup>3,4</sup> Other publications support the public-health approach to ART delivery<sup>5–7</sup> and free<sup>8</sup> and equitable access<sup>9</sup> to ART. The integrated management of adult, adolescent, and childhood illness (IMAI/IMCI) has been developed to support decentralised implementation in resource-poor countries.<sup>10</sup>

Treatment options have been consolidated into two sequential ART regimens.<sup>11</sup> International consensus on a simple first-line antiretroviral combination for adults meant that production and supply of ARTs could be scaled-up. Once fixed-dose combinations became widely available, and prices had fallen substantially, the WHO announced its 3 by 5 initiative (to strive for 3 million people in low-income and middle-income countries to be on antiretrovirals by 2005).<sup>11</sup> Although the initiative did not meet its target, by the end of 2005, around 1.3 million people were receiving WHO-recommended first-line regimens,<sup>12</sup> compared with 400,000 in 2003. A recent assessment noted that almost all focus countries for ART scale-up had either adapted or used WHO recommendations to shape national policy;<sup>13</sup> treatment programmes and centres report good initial responses.<sup>14,15</sup> Despite these achievements, there remains considerable uncertainty about what should constitute a public-health approach to ART. We summarise here the WHO’s

approach, and clarify its importance for treatment providers, HIV programme managers, and policymakers in developing countries.

#### Why a public-health approach?

Extensive evidence shows that combined antiretrovirals can substantially extend the life of those with HIV/AIDS. Guidelines for industrialised countries cover individual patient management delivered by specialist doctors prescribing from the full range of antiretrovirals, supported by routine high-technology laboratory monitoring.<sup>16–18</sup> Such an approach is not feasible in resource-limited settings where doctors are scarce (eg, one per 12 500 population in Uganda<sup>19</sup>), laboratory infrastructure is inadequate (eg, one working microscope per 100 000 population in central Malawi<sup>20</sup>), and the procurement and supply-chain management is fragile. This difficulty in translating guidelines from developed to developing nations caused concerns over whether ART scale-up in poor countries was feasible, let alone affordable or cost-effective.

Drawing on experience from using the DOTS approach for tuberculosis, the WHO began to develop a public-health approach to providing ART. This approach took into account country requirements, the realities of weak health systems, and the experiences of pioneering ART programmes.<sup>21</sup> The key tenets were standardisation and simplification of regimens to support efficient implementation, ensuring ART programmes were based on the most rigorous scientific data,<sup>1</sup> and equity—aiming to set standards for treatment that should be accessible by all in need. The key conceptual shift was the move from an individual-based approach to a population-based one, recognised as the only way to make ART rapidly accessible to the millions in need.<sup>21</sup>

Lancet 2006; 368: 505–10  
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## Why

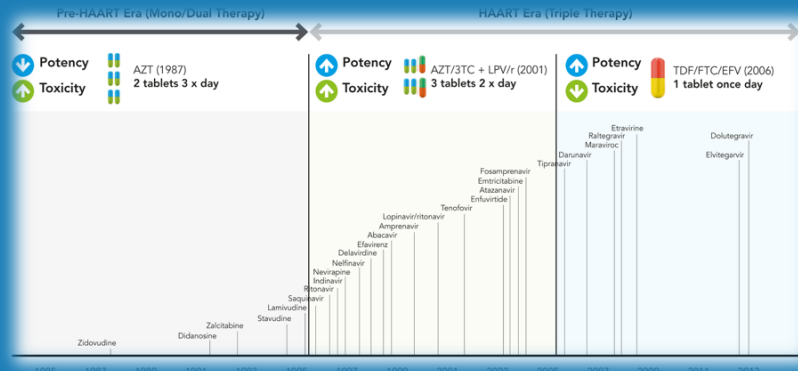
- High cost/complexity of treatment
- Lack of skilled medical professionals
- Lack of laboratory services

## What

- Simplification and standardization
- Task shifting and decentralization
- Advocacy to reduce costs and increase funding

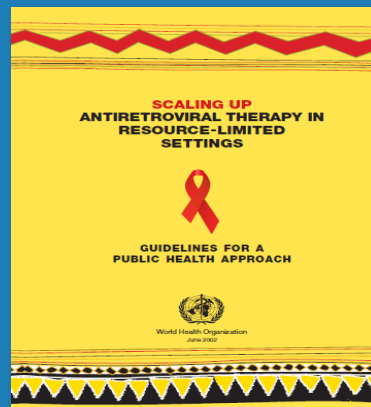
Gilks et al, Lancet 2006

# Simplification of treatment

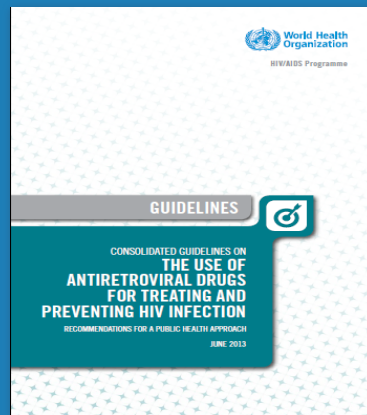


240 different initial treatments were prescribed in Switzerland in 10 years (Wandeler et al, PLoS 2011)

19 different first line regimens in US guidelines



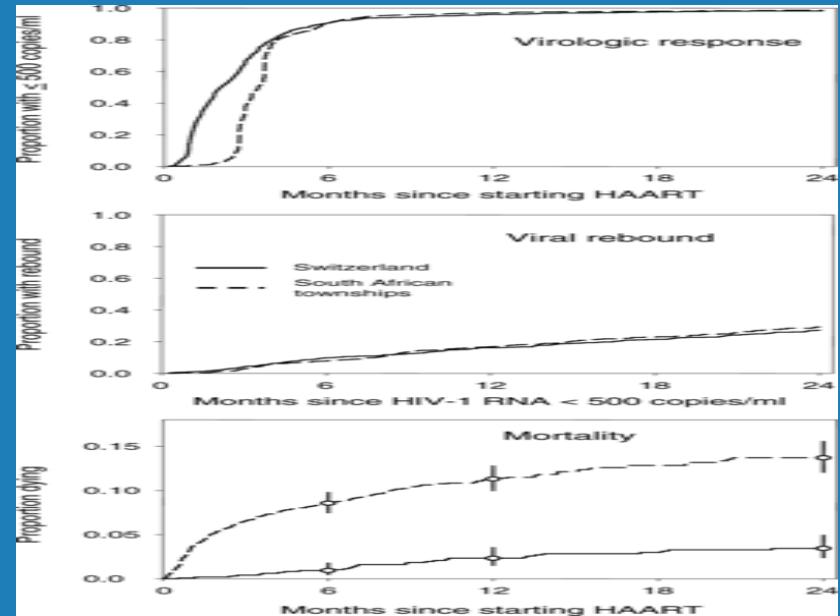
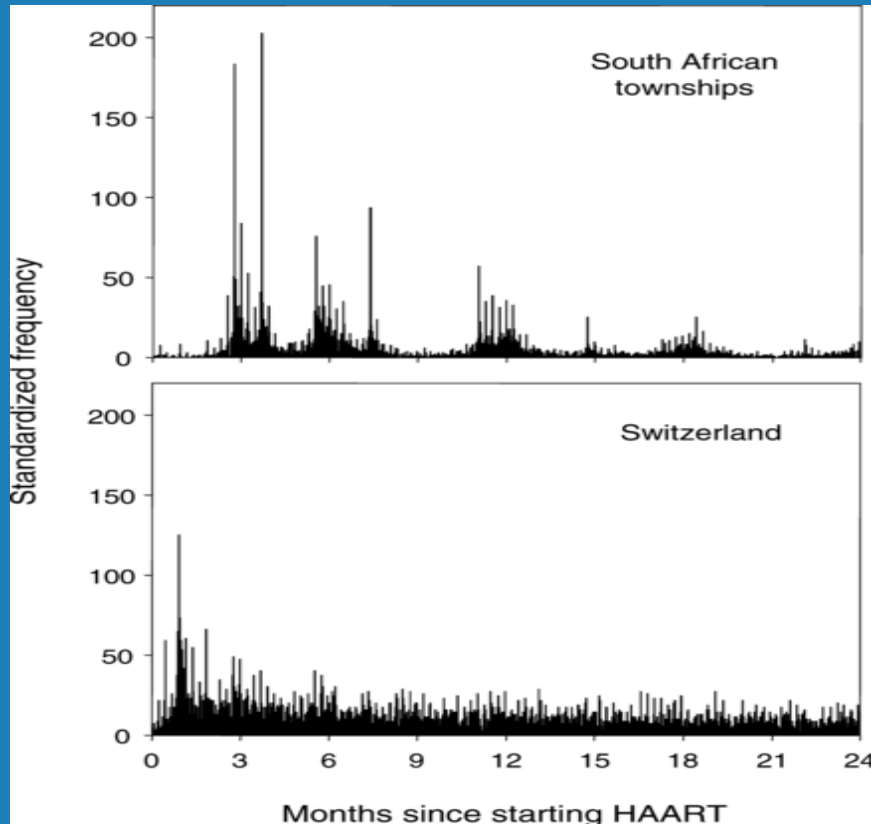
**WHO 2002**  
8 different first line regimens recommended



**WHO 2013**  
1 single preferred first line recommended



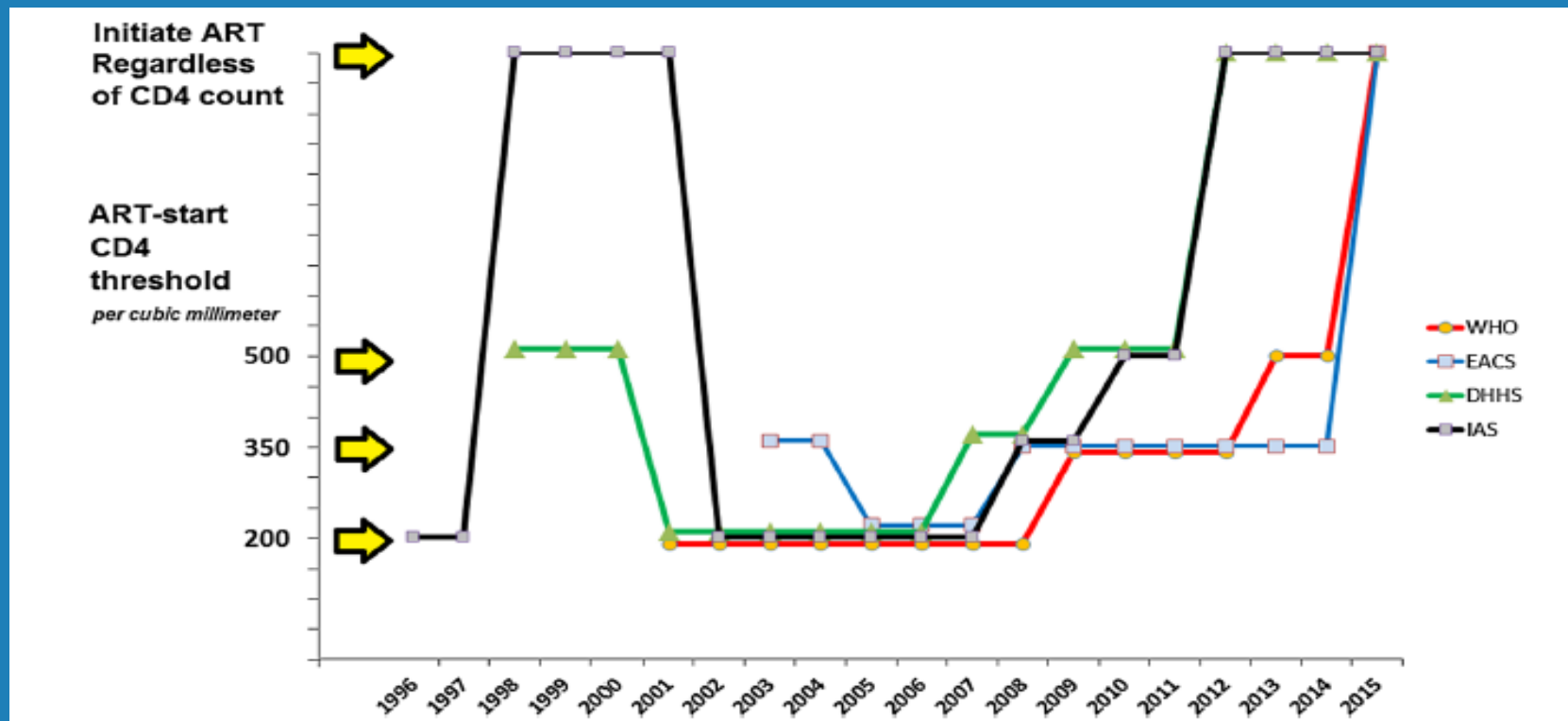
# Individual vs public health response



Similar outcomes  
Despite more frequent regimens (4 vs 36)  
and monitoring



# Evolution in “when to start”



# Starting earlier reduces mortality and morbidity

## The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

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### Initiation of Antiretroviral Therapy in Early Asymptomatic HIV Infection

The INSIGHT START Study Group\*

#### ABSTRACT

#### BACKGROUND

Data from randomized trials are lacking on the benefits and risks of initiating antiretroviral therapy in patients with asymptomatic human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection who have a CD4+ count of more than 350 cells per cubic millimeter.

#### METHODS

We randomly assigned HIV-positive adults who had a CD4+ count of more than 500 cells per cubic millimeter to start antiretroviral therapy immediately (immediate-initiation group) or to defer it until the CD4+ count decreased to 350 cells per cubic millimeter or until the development of the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) or another condition that dictated the use of antiretroviral therapy (deferred-initiation group). The primary composite end point was any serious AIDS-related event, serious non-AIDS-related event, or death from any cause.

#### RESULTS

A total of 4685 patients were followed for a mean of 3.0 years. At study entry, the median HIV viral load was 12,759 copies per milliliter, and the median CD4+ count was 651 cells per cubic millimeter. On May 15, 2015, on the basis of an interim analysis, the data and safety monitoring board determined that the study question had been answered and recommended that patients in the deferred-initiation group be offered antiretroviral therapy. The primary end point occurred in 42 patients in the immediate-initiation group (1.8%; 0.60 events per 100 person-years), as compared with 96 patients in the deferred-initiation group (4.1%; 1.58 events per 100 person-years), for a hazard ratio of 0.43 (95% confidence interval [CI] 0.30 to 0.62;  $P<0.001$ ). Hazard ratios for serious AIDS-related and serious non-AIDS-related events were 0.28 (95% CI, 0.15 to 0.50;  $P<0.001$ ) and 0.61 (95% CI, 0.38 to 0.97;  $P=0.04$ ), respectively. More than two thirds of the primary end points (68%) occurred in patients with a CD4+ count of more than 500 cells per cubic millimeter. The risks of a grade 4 event were similar in the two groups, as were the risks of unscheduled hospital admissions.

#### CONCLUSIONS

The initiation of antiretroviral therapy in HIV-positive adults with a CD4+ count of more than 500 cells per cubic millimeter provided net benefits over starting such therapy in patients after the CD4+ count had declined to 350 cells per cubic millimeter. (Funded by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and others; START ClinicalTrials.gov number, NCT00867048.)

The members of the writing group [Jens D. Lundgren, M.D. [cochair], Abdel G. Babiker, Ph.D. [cochair], Fred Gordin, M.D. [cochair], Sean Emery, Ph.D., Birgit Grund, Ph.D., Shweta Sharma, M.S., An-Chalee Avihingsanon, M.D., David A. Cooper, M.D., Gerd Finkenbaur, M.D., Joseph M. Libere, M.D., Jean-Michel Molina, M.D., Paula Munderi, M.D., Mauro Schechter, M.D., Robin Wood, M.D., Karin L. Klingman, M.D., Simon Collins, H. Clifford Lane, M.D., Andrew N. Phillips, Ph.D., and James D. Neaton, Ph.D. [INSIGHT PI]] of the INSIGHT START Study Group assume responsibility for the overall content and integrity of this article. The affiliations of the members of the writing group are listed in the Appendix. Address reprint requests to Dr. Lundgren at the Department of Infectious Diseases, Rigshospitalet, University of Copenhagen, Blegdamsvej 9, 2100 Copenhagen Ø, Denmark, or at jens.lundgren@regionh.dk.

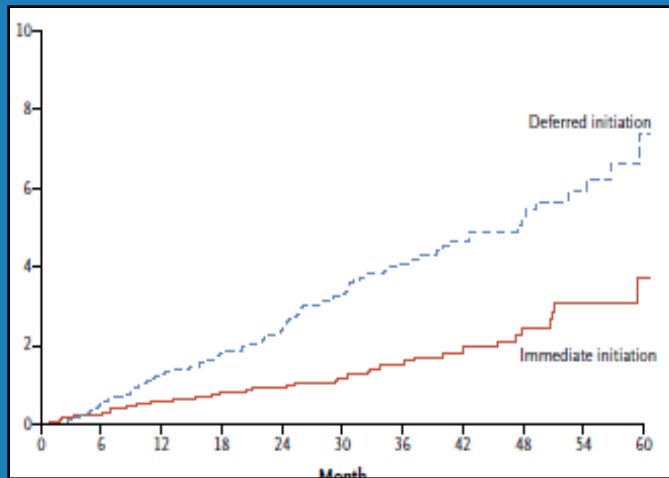
\*A complete list of members in the Strategic Timing of Antiretroviral Treatment (START) Study Group is provided in the Supplementary Appendix, available at NEJM.org.

This article was published on July 20, 2015, at NEJM.org.

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Balancing  
risks and  
benefits...and  
cost

Insight Start NEJM 2016

# Viral suppression reduces incidence

## Community viral load, antiretroviral therapy coverage, and HIV incidence in India: a cross-sectional, comparative study

Sand S. Solomon, Shashi H. Mahata, Allison M. McFall, Ajay K. S. Sahasrabudhe, Shantaram S. Sureshwar, Oliver L. J. van der Pol, Poochamma B. Balakrishnan, David D. Calantone, Sandi Solomon, Gayatri M. L. Laxmi

### Summary

**Background** HIV incidence is the best measure of treatment-programme effectiveness, but is difficult and expensive. The concept of community-viral load as a modifiable driver of new HIV infections is substantial attention. We set out to compare several measures of community-viral load and antiretroviral (ART) coverage as correlates of HIV incidence in high-risk populations.

**Methods** We analysed data from a sample of people who inject drugs and men who have sex with men participants of the baseline assessment of a cluster-randomised trial in progress across (ClinicalTrials.gov number NCT01686750). We recruited the study population by use of respondent-driven sampling and did the baseline assessment at 27 community-based sites (12 for men who have sex with men who inject drugs). We estimated HIV incidence with a multistage algorithm and calculated five measures of HIV control: mean log<sub>10</sub> HIV RNA in participants with HIV in a community site (in-care viral load), awareness of their status but not necessarily in care (aware viral load), or all HIV whether they were aware, in care, or not (population viral load); participants with HIV in a community site more than 150 copies per mL (prevalence of viraemia); and the proportion of participants with HIV ART use in the previous 30 days (population ART coverage). All participants were tested for HIV using a rapid HIV test. We assessed correlations between the measures and HIV incidence using Spearman correlation coefficients and linear regression analysis.

**Findings** Between Oct 1, 2012, and Dec 19, 2013, we recruited 26 503 participants, 12 022 men who have sex with men and 14 481 people who inject drugs. Median incidence of HIV was 0.87% (IQR 0.40–1.17). In men who have sex with men and 1.43% (IQR 0.4–4.06) in people who inject drugs. Prevalence of viraemia was more strongly correlated with HIV incidence (correlation 0.81, 95% CI 0.42–0.91;  $p < 0.0001$ ) than all other measures, although correlated with aware viral load ( $p = 0.59$ , 0.27–0.79;  $p = 0.001$ ), population viral load ( $p = 0.51$ , 0.16–0.74;  $p = 0.007$ ), coverage ( $p = 0.54$ , 0.27–0.79;  $p = 0.004$ ). In-care viral load was not correlated with HIV incidence ( $p = 0.14$ ). With regression analysis, we estimated that to reduce HIV incidence by 1 percentage point prevalence of viraemia would need to be reduced by 4.34%, and ART use in HIV-positive individuals increase by 19.5%.

**Interpretation** Prevalence of viraemia had the strongest correlation with HIV incidence in this site as a useful measure of the effectiveness of a treatment programme.

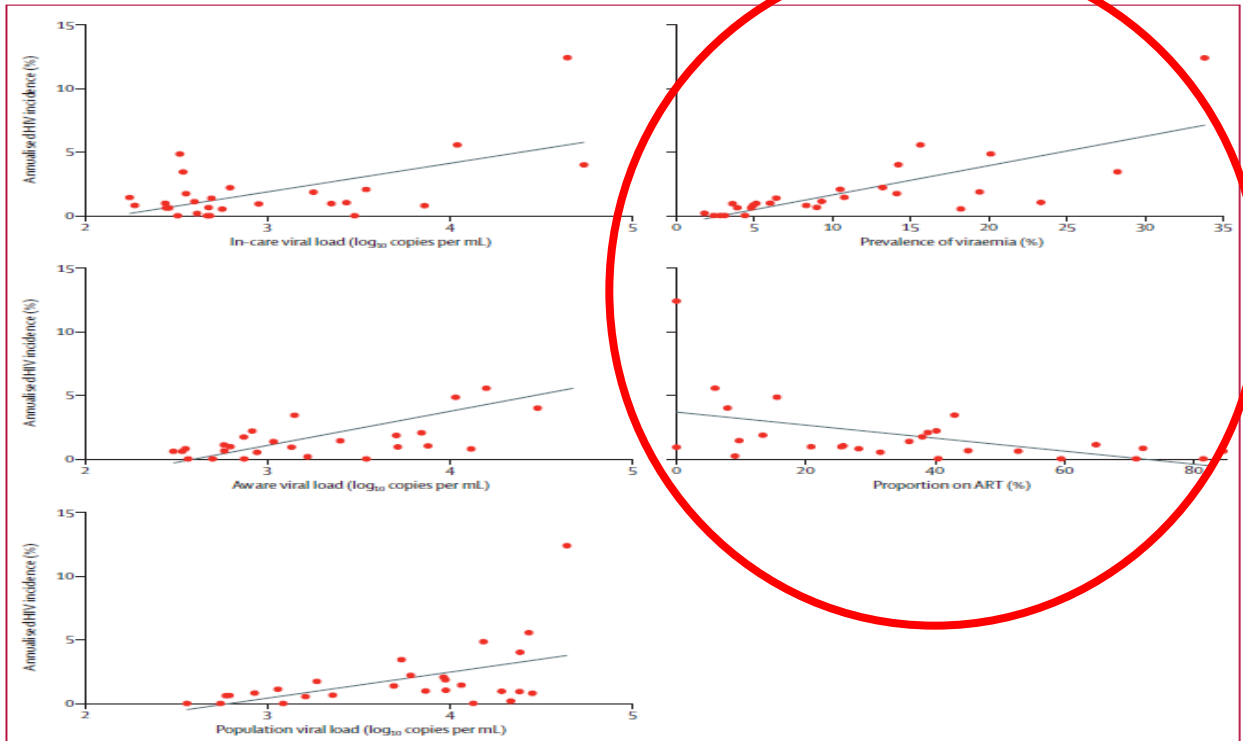
**Funding** US National Institutes of Health, Elton John AIDS Foundation.

### Introduction

Compelling evidence of HIV treatment as prevention from clinical studies<sup>1</sup> and expanding but highly variable global antiretroviral therapy (ART) coverage<sup>2</sup> has focused attention on the need to monitor community-level effectiveness of ART. HIV incidence is the best possible measure of the effectiveness of treatment-as-prevention programmes. However, measurement of HIV incidence is difficult and expensive, and rarely done outside a research context.<sup>3</sup> Researchers have proposed the measures of community viral load<sup>4</sup> and population ART coverage<sup>5</sup> as capturing a causal association between community-level effectiveness of HIV treatment and HIV transmission.

Community viral load, a family of measures derived from HIV RNA measures in subgroups of individuals with HIV, has been temporally correlated

with HIV incidence or new HIV drug resistance (data not shown) in ecological studies. These measures have limitations. Data derived from administrative systems represent individuals who are one of their status—a population that has accounts for a large proportion of community viral load measured in cohort study might represent individuals who are unlikely to adequately account for individuals who are unaware of their status, because participants are usually routinely seen. Some researchers have argued sensitivity measures of community people with HIV do not account for individuals who can vary widely by community



# Task shifting to address health worker shortage

## Articles

### Nurse versus doctor management of HIV-infected patients receiving antiretroviral therapy (CIPRA-SA): a randomised non-inferiority trial

Ian Sanne, Catherine Orrell, Matthew P Fox, Francesca Charlotte Ingram, Roseline Panchisi, Mohammed Rassa, James McIntyre, Robin Wood, for the CIPRA-SA Study Team

**Summary** Background Expanded access to combination task shifting from doctors to other health-care of ART care for HIV-infected patients.

**Methods** This randomised non-inferiority trial individuals with a CD4 cell count of less than 350 to nurse-monitored or doctor-monitored ART randomisation, and neither the patients nor objective was a composite endpoint of treatment limiting toxic effects, and adherence to visit versus doctor group for cumulative treatment was less than 1-40. This study is registered

**Findings** 408 patients were assigned to do participants were analysed. 371 (46%) patients and 179 (44%) in the doctor group. The hazard within the limits for non-inferiority. After a months (44 vs 39), toxicity failures (68 vs 64 groups, respectively.

**Interpretation** Nurse-monitored ART is not support to task shifting to appropriately train

**Funding** National Institutes of Health, United Alliance and Infectious Diseases.

**Introduction** Combination drug therapy has had a remarkable on the reduction of AIDS-related mortality. In industrialised countries, management is administered by specialists who prescribe from the full range of antiretroviral drugs, supported by frequent monitoring including resistance testing. Few several studies in industrialised settings that outpatients have better outcomes when a physician with HIV expertise than do such a physician, including quality of care and which could be an indicator of the complexity of infection and its management. By contrast, small epidemic in resource-rich countries 22-4 million people living with HIV in Africa, with an estimated 3-8 million in need of treatment. Globally, there is a shortage of health workers (doctors, midwives, nurses, workers); in South Africa there are only 1

www.thelancet.com Published online June 16, 2012 DOI:10.1016/S0140-6736(12)60101-1

## Articles

### Task shifting of antiretroviral treatment from doctors to primary-care nurses in South Africa (STRETCH): a pragmatic, parallel, cluster-randomised trial

Lara Fairall, Max O Bachmann, Carl Lombard, Vanessa Timmerman, Kerry Liebel, Marissa Christopher J Cohen, Simon Lewis, Gill Fairs, Ruth Connick, Beverly Dwyer, Muelo Tshabalala, Ronald Chapman, Eric Bateman

**Summary** Background Robust evidence of the effectiveness of task shifting of ant health workers is scarce. We aimed to assess the effects on mortality, and quality indicators of the Streamlining Tasks and Roles to Expand programme, which provides educational outreach training of our decentralise care.

**Methods** We undertook a pragmatic, parallel, cluster-randomised trial June 30, 2010. We randomly assigned 31 primary-care ART clinics (intervention group) or to continue with standard care (control group) many clinics were in each of nine strata. Two cohorts were enrolled: 216 years with CD4 counts of 350 cells per µl or less who were not had already received ART for at least 6 months and were being treated 1 was time to death (superiority analysis). The primary outcome in cohort loads (<400 copies per mL) 12 months after enrolment (equivalence) and clinicians could not be masked to group assignment. The interim masked after the database was locked for final analysis. Analyses registered, number ISRCTN46816853.

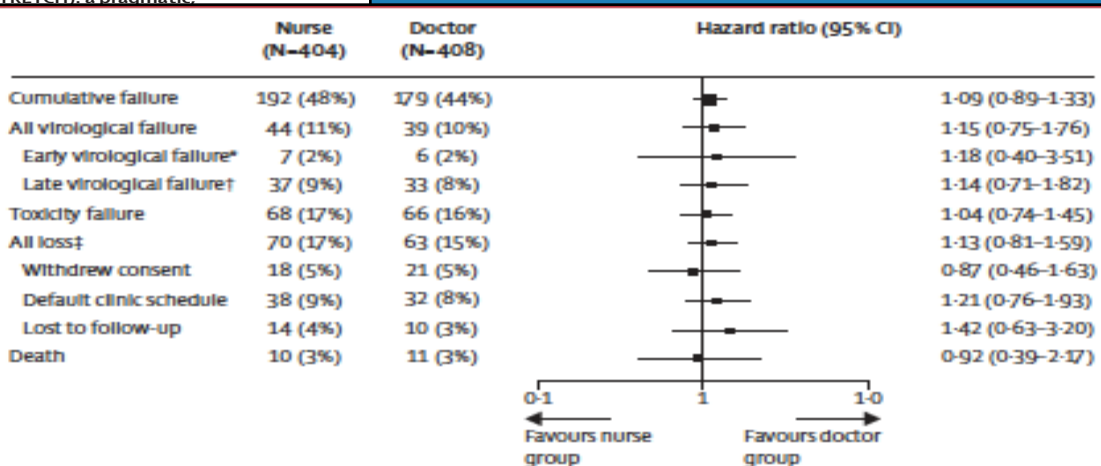
**Findings** 5390 patients in cohort 1 and 3029 in cohort 2 were in the 3202 in cohort 2 were in the control group. Median follow-up was 18-0 months (18-0-38-0) in cohort 2. In cohort 1, 997 (20%) of 4943 patients 747 (19%) of 3862 in the control group with known vital status at the end of follow-up (hazard ratio [HR] 0-94, 95% CI 0-76-1-15). In a preplanned analysis of 201-350 cells per µl, mortality was slightly lower in the intervention (0-54-1-00; p=0-052), but it did not differ between groups in patients (0-94, 0-76-1-15; p=0-577). In cohort 2, viral load suppression 12 intervention (2156 [71%] of 3029 patients) and control groups (2330 -2-4 to 4-6).

**Interpretation** Expansion of primary-care nurses' roles to include ART safety, and improve health outcomes and quality of care, but might not

**Funding** UK Medical Research Council, Development Cooperation Intervention Agency.

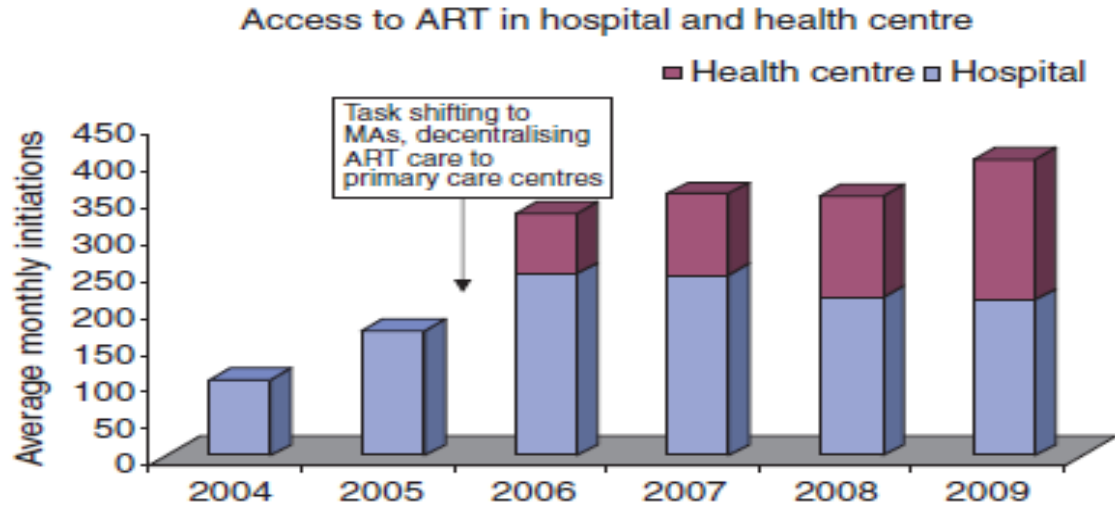
**Introduction** Since 2006, efforts to increase access to antiretroviral therapy (ART) in Africa have emphasised task shifting—in, delegation of clinical tasks from doctors to other health-care workers. However, robust evidence of its effectiveness is scarce. A 2010 systematic review task shifting in care of patients with HIV infection showed that it is effective and can provide high-quality care, but of 25 original studies reviewed, only 11 made comparisons with alternatives, and only two of those were randomised trials. Neither trial assessed the effect of task

shifting on both was i In South has been treatment because do ART. Del mortality waiting for treatment. Thus, evidence from randomised trials is needed on whether other health workers can effectively and safely identify patients eligible for ART.



© 2012 The Author(s). University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa

# Task shifting & decentralization

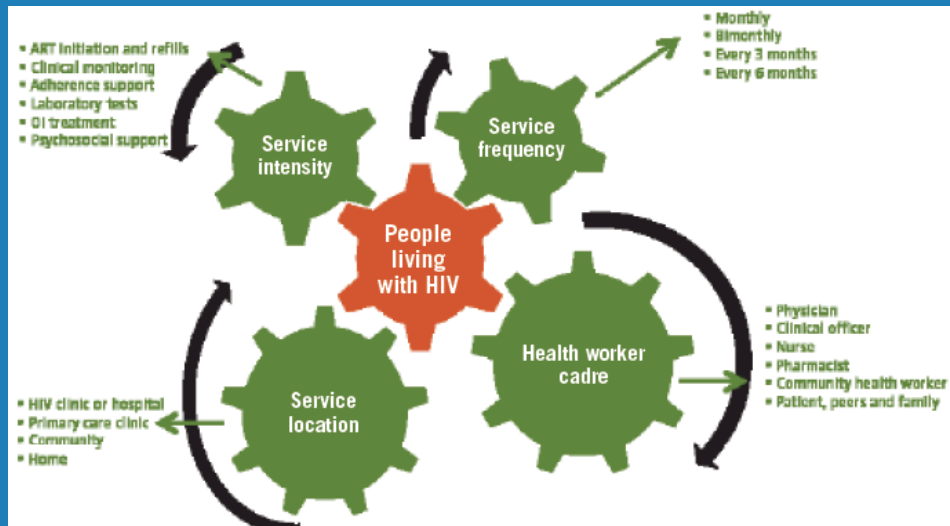


**Figure 2** Access to antiretroviral therapy in Thyolo district; MA, medical assistant.

Time to ART initiation decreased from nearly 100 days in 2003 to less than 3 weeks in 2009



# Service delivery: differentiated care

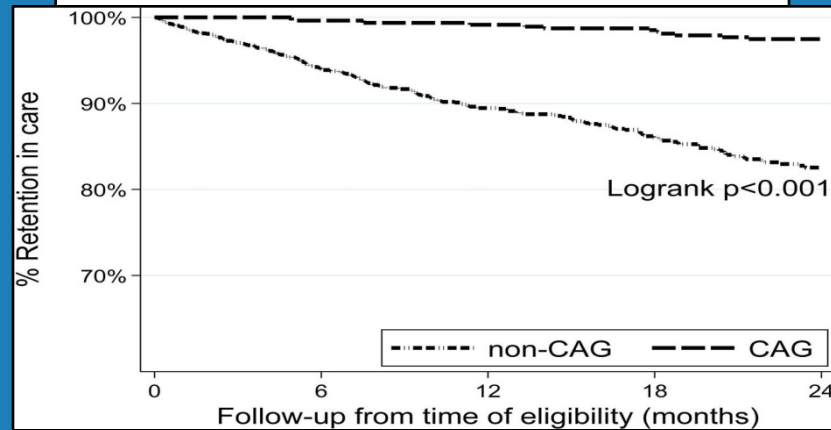


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Open Access Research

## BMJ Open Effect of Community ART Groups on retention-in-care among patients on ART in Tete Province, Mozambique: a cohort study

Tom Decroo,<sup>1</sup> Barbara Telfer,<sup>1</sup> Carla Das Dore,<sup>2</sup> Richard A White,<sup>3</sup> Natacha Dos Santos,<sup>1</sup> Alec Mkwamba,<sup>1</sup> Sergio Dezembo,<sup>1</sup> Mariano Joffrisse,<sup>1</sup> Tom Ellman,<sup>4</sup> Carol Metcalfe<sup>4</sup>



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BMJ

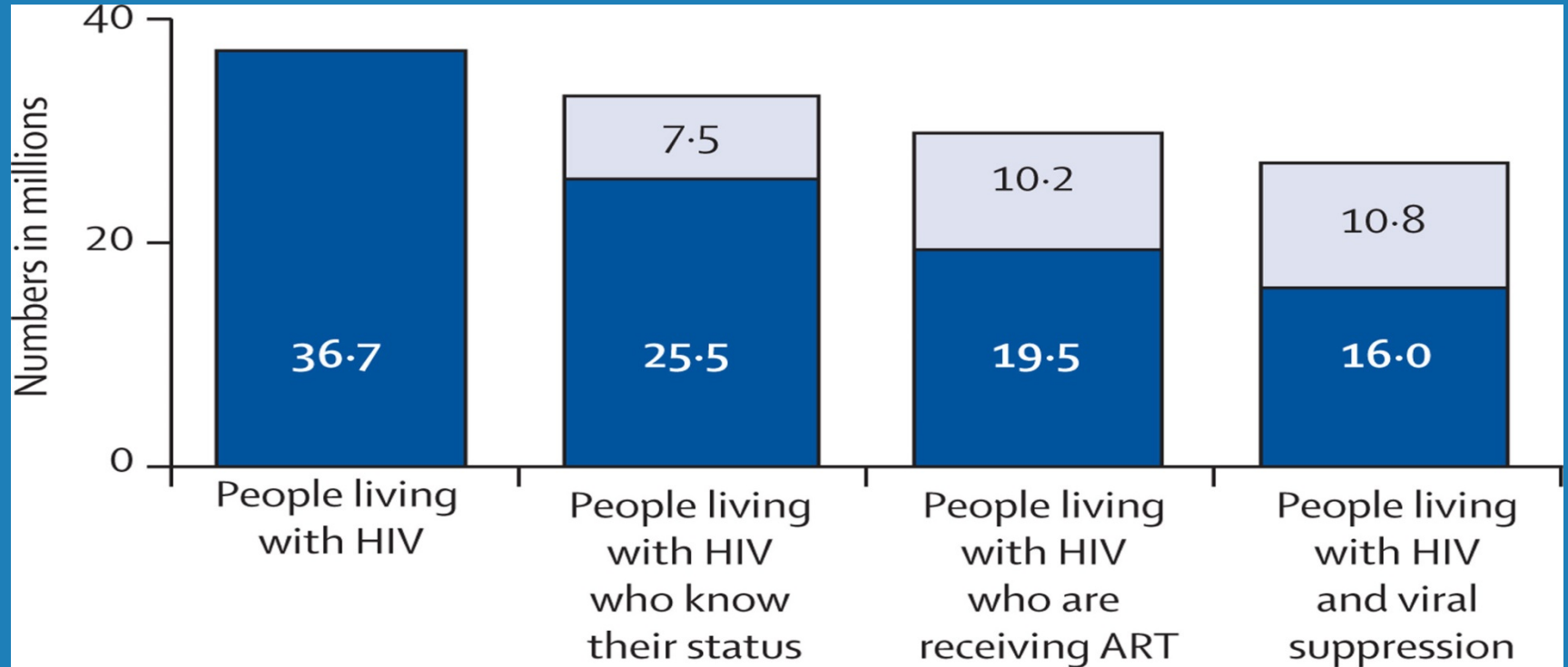
are living with HIV (PLHIV), of whom 17 million were on antiretroviral therapy (ART) at the end of 2015.<sup>2</sup> The WHO endorses the 90-90-90 Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS targets: by 2020, 90% of people living with HIV should know

gaps and other challenges hamper response.<sup>3</sup> In addition, high levels of attrition (death or loss-to-follow-up (LTFU) combined) undermine the proven benefits of early treatment for individuals and the prevention of onward transmission of HIV.<sup>4</sup> A recent systematic

Decroo T, et al. *BMJ Open* 2017;7:e016800. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2017-016800

1

# Tracking progress: the cascade of care





# Expanded access to testing

1. Health provider testing

2. Lay testing

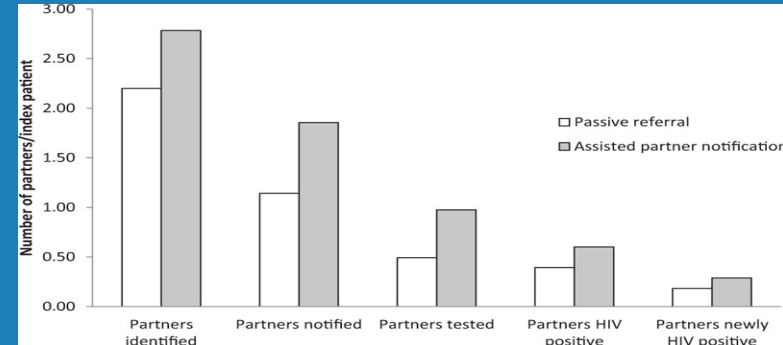


Already policy in 64% of African countries

3. Community testing

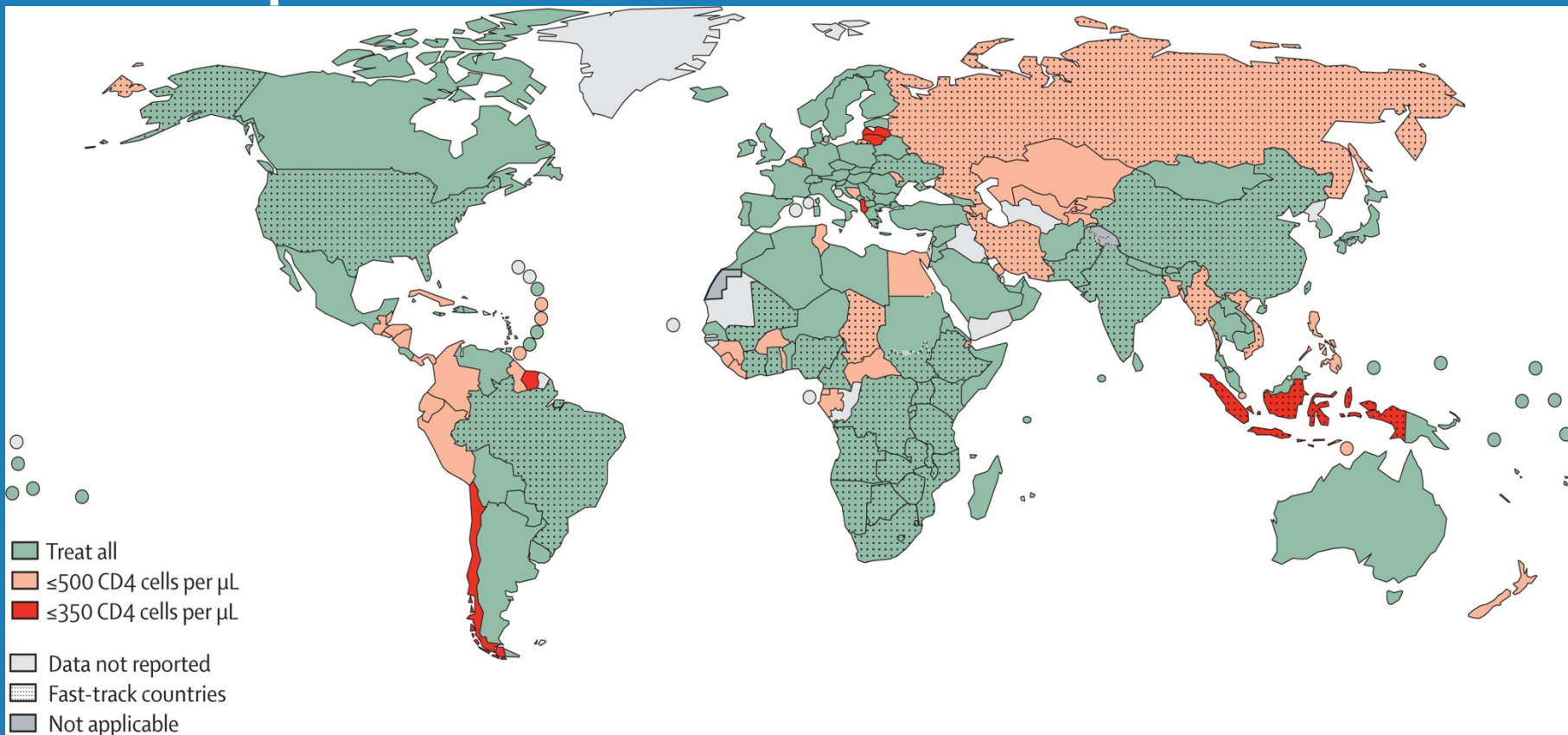
Home, partner, workplace...

4. Self-testing



Dalal et al, AIDS 2017

# Expanded access to treatment



# From “when to start” to “how quickly to start”

**PLOS** | MEDICINE

RESEARCH ARTICLE

## Initiating Antiretroviral Therapy for HIV at a Patient's First Clinic Visit: The RapIT Randomized Controlled Trial

Sydney Rosen<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Mhairi Maskew<sup>3</sup>, Matthew P. Fox<sup>2,3</sup>, Cynthia Nyoni<sup>4</sup>, Constance Mongwenyana<sup>4</sup>, Given Maletle<sup>4</sup>, Ian Sanne<sup>4</sup>, Dorah Bokaba<sup>4</sup>, Celeste Sauls<sup>4</sup>, Julia Rohw<sup>4</sup>, Lawrence Long<sup>4</sup>

**OPEN ACCESS**

**Citation:** Rosen S, Maskew M, Fox MP, Nyoni C, Mongwenyana C, Maletle G, et al. (2016) Initiating Antiretroviral Therapy for HIV at a Patient's First Clinic Visit: The RapIT Randomized Controlled Trial. *PLoS Med* 13(5): e1002015. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed.1002015

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**Data Availability Statement:** Data will be made publicly available in the Dryad repository (<https://www.dryad.org/>) after the protocol has been closed (anticipated closure June 2018). Until then, data will remain under the supervision of the University of the Witwatersrand Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC). Requests should be sent to the HREC Research Administrator at: [research@human-research.ethics-committee.medical.wits.ac.za](mailto:research@human-research.ethics-committee.medical.wits.ac.za)

**Funding:** Funding for this study was provided by the U.S. National Institutes of Health (National Institute of Health)

**Abstract**

**Background**

High rates of patient attrition from care between HIV testing and antiretroviral therapy (ART) initiation have been documented in sub-Saharan Africa, contributing to persistently low CD4 cell counts at treatment initiation. One reason for this is that starting ART in many countries is a lengthy and burdensome process, imposing long waits and multiple clinic visits on patients. We estimated the effect on uptake of ART and viral suppression of an accelerated initiation algorithm that allowed treatment-eligible patients to be dispensed their first supply of antiretroviral medications on the day of their first HIV-related clinic visit.

**Methods and Findings**

RapIT (Rapid Initiation of Treatment) was an unblinded randomized controlled trial of single-visit ART initiation in two public sector clinics in South Africa, a primary health clinic (PHC) and a hospital-based HIV clinic. Adult (≥18 y old), non-pregnant patients receiving a positive HIV test or first treatment-eligible CD4 count were randomized to standard or rapid initiation. Patients in the rapid-initiation arm of the study ("rapid arm") received a point-of-care (POC) CD4 count if needed; those who were ART-eligible received a POC tuberculosis (TB) test if asymptomatic, POC blood tests, physical exam, education, counseling, and antiretroviral (ARV) dispensing. Patients in the standard-initiation arm of the study ("standard arm") followed standard clinic procedures (three to five additional clinic visits over 2–4 wk prior to ARV dispensing). Follow up was by record review only. The primary outcome was viral suppression, defined as initiated, retained in care, and suppressed (<400 copies/mL) within 10 mo of study enrolment. Secondary outcomes included initiation of ART ≤90 d of study enrolment, retention in care, time to ART initiation, patient-level predictors of primary

**OPEN ACCESS**

**Citation:** Rosen S, Maskew M, Fox MP, Nyoni C, Mongwenyana C, Maletle G, et al. (2016) Initiating Antiretroviral Therapy for HIV at a Patient's First Clinic Visit: The RapIT Randomized Controlled Trial. *PLoS Med* 13(5): e1002015. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed.1002015

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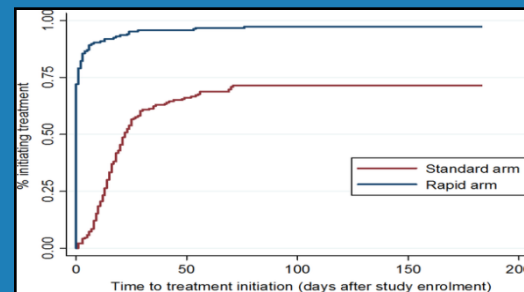
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**Data Availability Statement:** Data will be made publicly available in the Dryad repository (<https://www.dryad.org/>) after the protocol has been closed (anticipated closure June 2018). Until then, data will remain under the supervision of the University of the Witwatersrand Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC). Requests should be sent to the HREC Research Administrator at: [research@human-research.ethics-committee.medical.wits.ac.za](mailto:research@human-research.ethics-committee.medical.wits.ac.za)

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## New studies show that ART can be started on same day as HIV diagnosis



**WHO recommendation (July 2017)**

Start within 7 days of an HIV diagnosis •

Consider same day start •

# Simplified HCV service delivery in a public health approach

Simplified and standardized algorithms

Strategies to strengthen linkage to care

Differentiated care

Integrated testing, care and treatment

Decentralisation of care to promote access

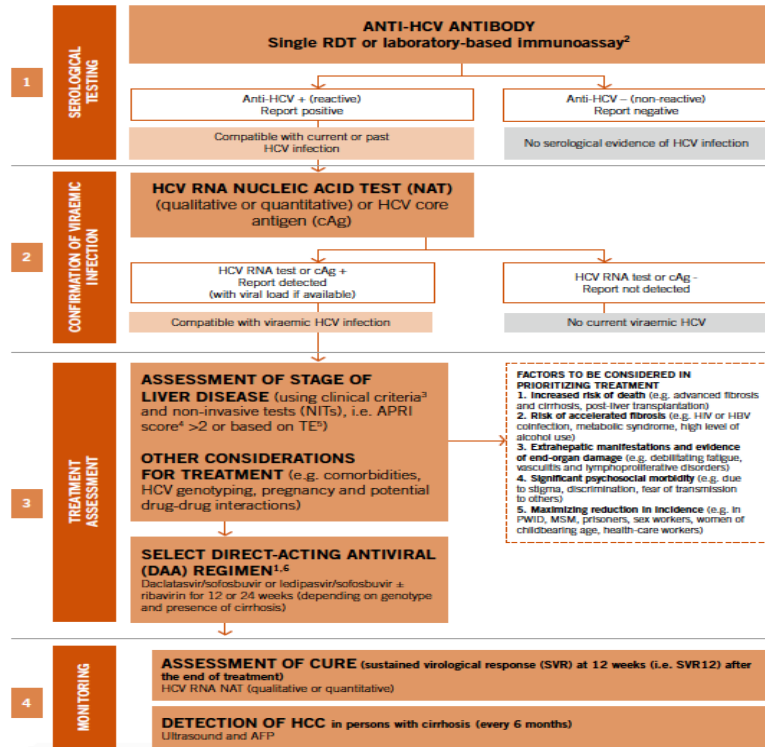
Community engagement and peer support

- Persons who inject drugs
- People in prisons and other closed settings
- MSM and sex workers
- Adolescents and Children
- Pregnant women
- Migrant/indigenous populations



# Simplified HCV testing, treatment and monitoring algorithm

FIG.3. Summary algorithm for diagnosis, treatment and monitoring<sup>1</sup> of chronic HCV infection



1. Single quality assured RDT

2. Prompt or reflex HCV RNA or core Ag

3. Assess and triage: Stage liver disease using NITs (APRI, FIB4, TE)

4. Treat All with Pan-genotypic regimens

5. One-step monitoring One test of cure SVR12

5 key steps

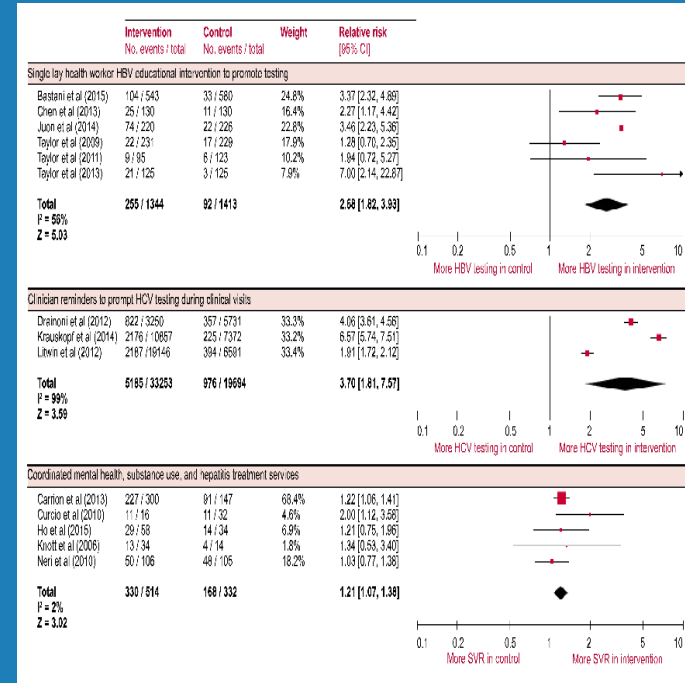
# Strategies to consider for increasing uptake and improving linkage

**Trained Peer and lay health workers** in community settings (*and for treatment and adherence*)

**Clinician reminders** to prompt provider initiated, facility-based testing

**Testing (*and treatment*) as part of integrated services** at a single facility, especially within mental health/drug treatment services

**On-site or immediate RDT testing** with same day results

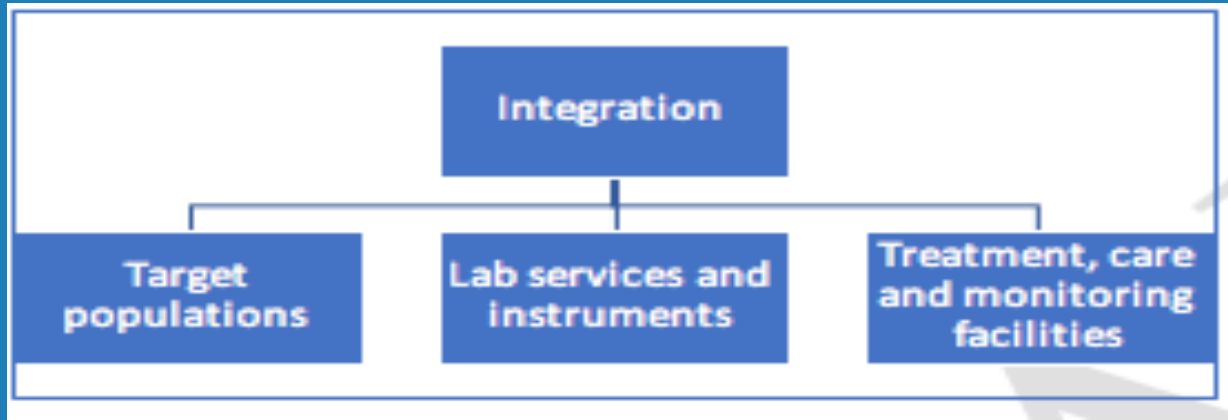


# Differentiated care

Who?	What?	Where?	By Whom ?
Persons clinically well and stable	Standard care package: Counselling, adherence support, treatment initiation and monitoring	Facility-based including primary care or community-based settings, including mobile/outreach	Physician or ?nurse
Advanced liver disease or serious co-morbidities, HCC, previous treatment failure	Requiring more intensive clinical support and follow-up: Management of liver related complications (eg. variceal bleed, ascites, encephalopathy, HCC treatment, genotyping)	Facility-based - hospital	Physician
Mental health issues, active injecting drug users, alcohol misuse, adolescents	Requiring more intensive psychosocial/mental health support	Can be Facility-based or Community-based, Harm reduction site	Physician and counsellor/peer support



# Integration



Integration with other testing settings or opportunities eg. HIV, antenatal or TB

Integrated combo serology (HIV/HCV RDTs), including self-testing

Use of integrated multi-disease platforms for HCV RNA (centralised or decentralised)

HCV care at harm reduction sites

HCV care at HIV, STI, TB clinics

HCV care in prisons

Integrated information systems

# Task shifting & decentralisation

## Models

- Hub and spoke
- Mobile outreach
- Other...

## ENABLERS

**Community & peer support**

### **HCW Training and mentorship**

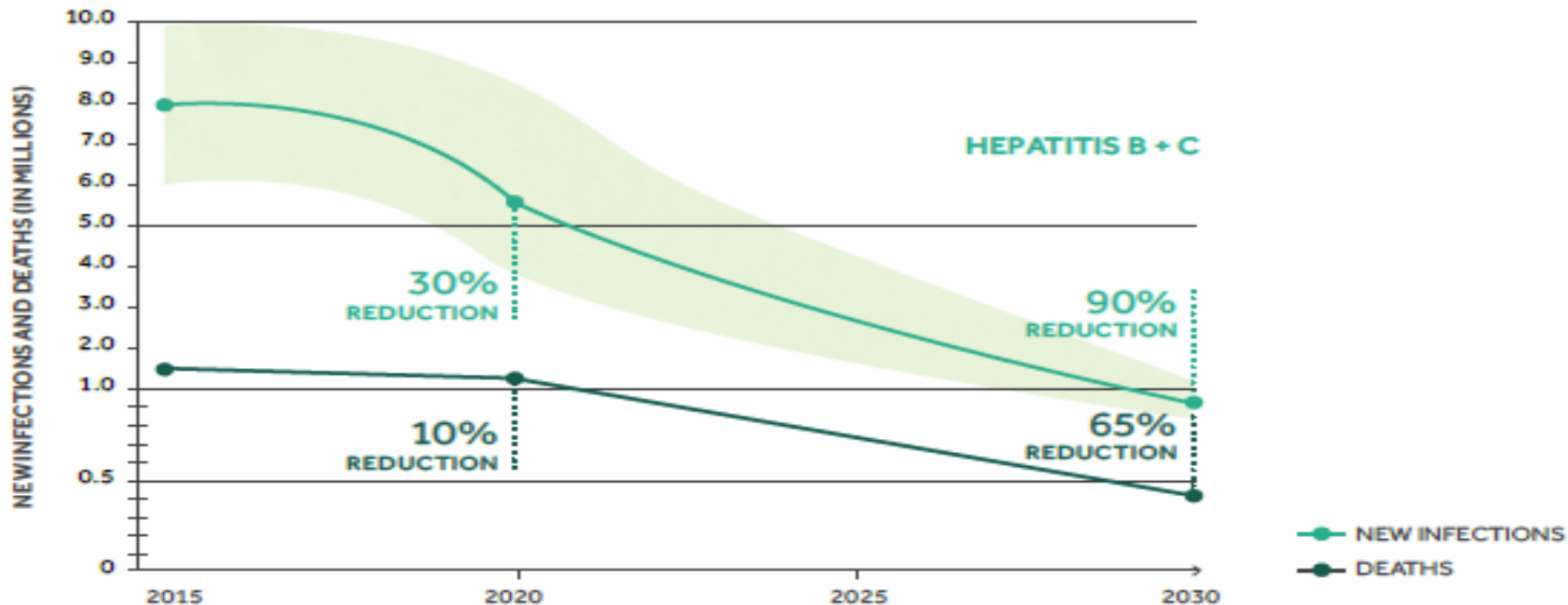
Training courses and curriculum  
Distance support

**Simpler treatment & labs**

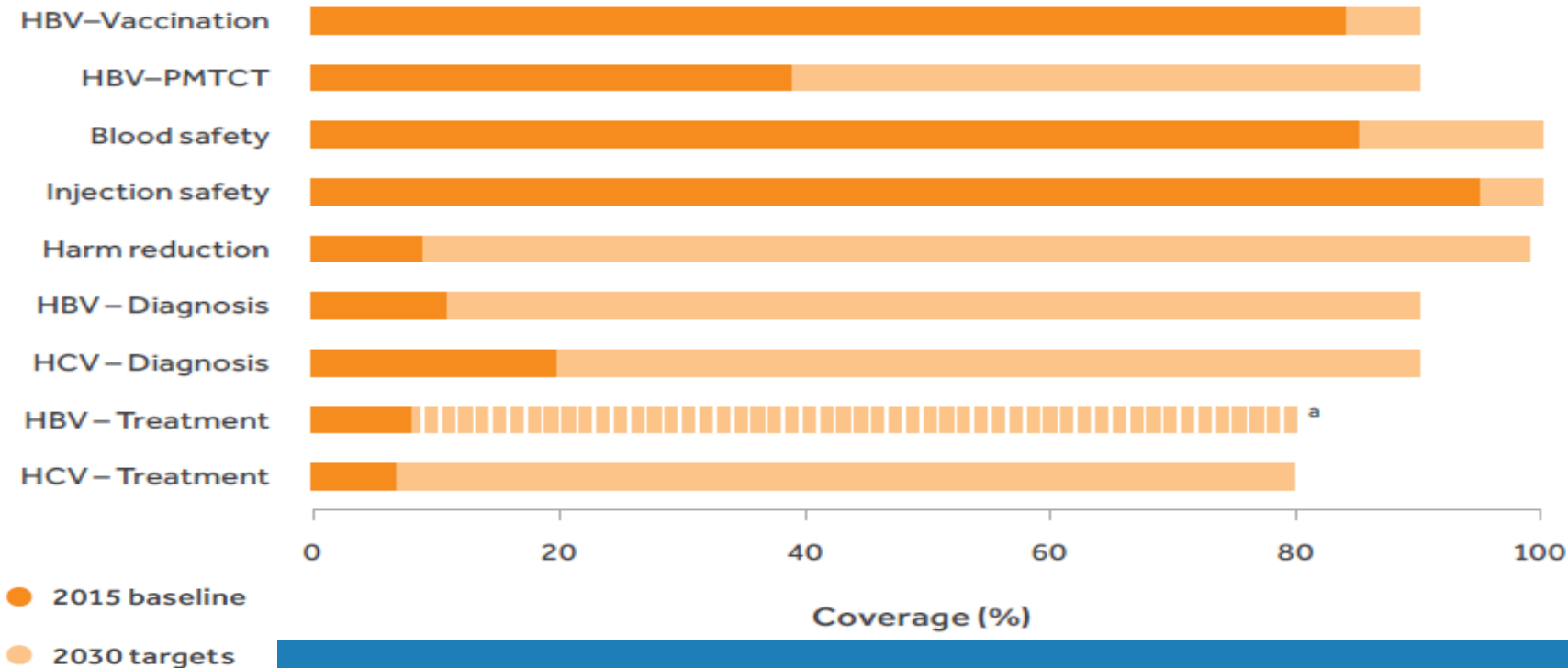
### **Integrated information systems**

(enhanced sample referral system, connectivity, SMS results)

# Elimination of viral hepatitis as a public health threat by 2030



# We have a long way to go



# Acknowledgements

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