WHO HIV POLICY ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION STATUS IN COUNTRIES

JULY 2019

With the 2016 WHO Consolidated guidelines on the use of antiretroviral drugs for treating and preventing HIV infection, WHO updated and launched new policy recommendations on the clinical and service delivery aspects of HIV treatment and care and raised the bar to treat all PLHIV (Treat All).

WHO has worked with countries to ensure uptake and implementation of these recommendations in support of the 90-90-90 targets.

Since 2013, WHO has implemented a country intelligence tool to better follow policy uptake and implementation at country level.

Herein, data are presented for 194 WHO Member States — including 137 low- and middle-income countries (LMIC) — and 35 Fast-Track countries1, respectively through July 2019.

• The number of countries with supportive HIV self-testing policies has grown by nearly thirteen-fold, increasing from 6 countries to 77 between 2015 and 2019. And the number of countries implementing HIV self-testing has nearly tripled from 14 to 38 between 2017 and 2019. Of those implementing HIV self-testing, the majority are in the African and European regions.

• 93% of LMIC and 100% of Fast-Track countries have adopted a Treat All policy, while another 2% of all LMIC plan to adopt Treat All before the end of 2020. This is in contrast to 84% of all LMIC adopting Treat All policy measured one year ago and 40% at the end of 2016.

• By the end of 2020, given current commitments, 96% of all LMIC will have adopted Treat All.

Implementation is well underway with 115 (84%) LMIC that have already put the Treat All policy fully into practice and 5 (4%) LMIC that have implemented this policy in the majority of treatment sites.

• Lifelong ART for pregnant women is nearly universally adopted and moving towards full implementation.

• By July 2019, 89% of LMIC and 100% of Fast-Track countries had adopted treat all for children (regardless of age).

• Dolutegravir (DTG) is now available at a lower price point as a fixed-dose combination with TDF and 3TC; many countries are moving to adopt DTG as part of first- and second-line ARV treatment regimens.

• 41 (30%) of LMIC adopted TDF/3TC/DTG as the preferred first-line therapy, whereas an additional 82 (60%) of LMIC are making shifts to DTG containing regimens (measured as composite indicator of countries that have introduced or are introducing DTG in their guidelines and procurement of DTG has been initiated).

• Routine HIV viral load monitoring is fully implemented in 68% of LMIC and partially implemented in 20% of LMIC.

With the 2016 Consolidated ARV Guidelines, WHO has rapidly updated global guidance to reflect new science regarding the benefit of early HIV treatment and is now planning to update the ARV guidelines in 2019 to address new science and innovations.

Status of HIV self-testing (HIVST) in national policies (situation as of July 2019)

Global AIDS Monitoring (UNAIDS/WHO/UNICEF) and WHO HIV Country Intelligence Tool, 2019

1 Thirty five countries accounting for more than 90% of the people becoming newly infected with HIV have been designated Fast-Track countries requiring intensified action.
Uptake of WHO policy for Treat All ART initiation among adults and adolescents living with HIV (situation as of July 2019)

Implementation of Treat All ART recommendation among adults and adolescents living with HIV (situation as of July 2019)
Implementation of Treat All policy for pregnant and breastfeeding women living with HIV (situation as of July 2019)

Uptake of WHO policy for Treat All ART initiation among children and adolescents <15 years living with HIV (situation as of July 2019)
Preferred first line regimen among adults and adolescents in low- and middle-income countries (situation as of July 2019)

DTG introduced in national guidelines and procurement initiated
DTG introduced in national guidelines, but procurement not yet initiated
DTG introduction in national guidelines planned for later in 2019
TDF/(3TC or FTC)/EFV first line ARVs only
High-income countries
Fast-Track countries
Data not reported
Not applicable

National policy on routine viral load testing for monitoring ART and level of implementation for adults and adolescents in low- and middle-income countries (situation as of July 2019)

Fully implemented
Partially implemented
Not implemented
Targeted viral load testing only
No policy on viral load testing
Data not reported
Fast-Track countries
High-income countries
Not applicable

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