

# HIV MID-YEAR MARKET MEMO



MAY 2022

Introducing the sixth edition of CHAI's **HIV Mid-Year Market Memo**, a brief covering the latest trends in the HIV space in LMICs since the publication of CHAI's annual [HIV Market Report](#) in October 2021.

For questions, reach out to Zack Panos ([zpanos@clintonhealthaccess.org](mailto:zpanos@clintonhealthaccess.org))

## TEST SMART

### US \$0.95 EXW

Per test for the WHO-prequalified **SD Biosensor STANDARD Q HIV/Syphilis Combo test** made possible by a [volume guarantee](#).



[139 countries](#) covered in this pricing agreement account for:

**98%** of the global burden of congenital syphilis

**93%** of the global HIV burden

### US \$1.50 EXW

Per test for **Abbott's blood-based CheckNOW HIV self-test**, WHO-prequalified in April 2022.



→ This is the lowest-cost HIV self-test currently on the market

→ **6** HIV self-tests now available with WHO PQ or GF ERPD



**WHO Toolkit to Optimize HIV Testing Algorithms:** this recently released toolkit provides countries with guidance to effectively conduct a local verification assessment to update national HIV testing algorithms

## TREAT RIGHT *Advanced HIV Disease*

### CD4 Testing

Scale-up of the **VISITECT CD4 Advanced Disease test, a device-free same-day CD4 test**, is ongoing across LMICs.

→ Available at a price of US \$3.98 EXW/test in over 130 LMICs



**309K**  
tests ordered  
as of April 2022



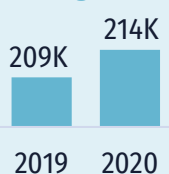
**34**  
countries with  
tests delivered

### Tuberculosis

→ For the first time in over a decade, TB deaths among people living with HIV increased in 2020

→ It is more important than ever to ensure access to short-course treatment regimens

#### TB Deaths Among PLHIV



### Isoniazid/Rifapentine (INH/RPT) – 3HP

→ Macleods is scaling up production capacity and will continue the US \$15 per pack access price through 2023

→ Lupin's INH/RPT (300/300 mg) tablets were recommended for use by the GF ERP in May 2022



The WHO released updated [consolidated guidelines](#) for the management of TB in children and adolescents

→ Major updates include the expansion of diagnostic testing to include **non-invasive specimens** and recommending new models of **decentralized and integrated care** that will improve access

### Cryptococcal Meningitis

#### Flucytosine (5FC)

→ Viartis anticipated to receive approval for new API source and reinitiate supply in Q2 or Q3 2022

→ Strides has commercialized 5FC for LMICs with the first batches available from June 2022

5FC

104% ↑

Increase in order volumes seen by APWG (2020-2021)

#### Liposomal Amphotericin B (L-AmB)

→ Sun Pharma received US FDA approval and work is ongoing to develop an LMIC pricing and access strategy

→ WHO issued [rapid advice](#) on use of single high dose of L-AmB based on AMBITION trial results, with new guidelines expected soon

L-AmB

672% ↑

Increase in order volumes seen by APWG (2020-2021)

# TREAT RIGHT *Adults*

## TLD and DTG (50 mg)

>18M patients on TLD/DTG in 1L and 2L in LMICs

Access to **DTG in 2L** should be a priority, including **switching existing stable 2L patients** on protease inhibitors (PIs).

### Countries Implementing Active Switching from PIs to DTG in 2L (as of Q1 2022)



Botswana Eswatini India Malawi RSA Uganda Zambia

Not Exhaustive

**VISEND Trial 144-Week Results:** TDF/3TC or TAF/FTC with DTG in 2L is non-inferior to AZT/3TC/PI-based standard of care, which could have implications for 2L sequencing

→ WHO guidelines on ARV backbone recycling have not been updated yet

**NADIA Trial 96-Week Results:** Reconfirms DTG or DRV/r equally effective in 2L and TDF/3TC can be recycled in 2L

→ Re-emphasizes the importance of 2L switching to DTG or DRV/r (for those unable to take DTG)

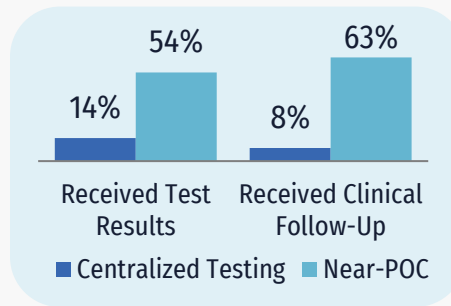
→ Southern African HIV Clinicians Society (SAHCS) [endorses](#) TDF/3TC backbone recycling in 2L

## Near-POC Viral Load (VL) Monitoring in Pregnant Women

The [results of a CHAI-supported study](#) in Zimbabwe demonstrated that pregnant women tested on near-point-of-care (POC) VL platforms at the facility were:

**4X** more likely to receive their results within 30 days of testing

**8X** more likely to receive clinical follow-up action within 30 days of testing



These results support [WHO Guidelines](#), which indicate **pregnant women are a priority population for POC VL testing**

## DRV/r (400/50 mg)

Darunavir (DRV), an optimal protease inhibitor widely used in high-income countries, is now available as an affordable, fixed-dose combination with ritonavir (DRV/r 400/50 mg) thanks to a CHAI-Unitaid incentive program.



**DRV/r (400/50 mg) from Hetero Labs is WHO-prequalified and available for US \$17.50 per pack EXW**

### Benefits of DRV/r

- High barrier to resistance
- Improved viral suppression over LPV/r
- Better tolerability than LPV/r or ATV/r
- Less expensive than LPV/r
- Can be reused in 3L at a higher dose

DRV/r (400/50 mg) is for use by PLHIV who are PI-naïve, have not previously experienced treatment failure on a PI, or who do not have DRV-associated resistance mutations. Given the benefits and lower cost compared to LPV/r, **DRV/r does not need to be saved for third-line.**



“In the rare instances in which a patient cannot take TLD because of failure or intolerance, a regimen with DRV/r is preferred, provided DRV/r is reliably available at an affordable price.”

– PEPFAR 2022 COP Guidance



**Botswana, Nigeria, and Zambia** are introducing DRV/r (400/50 mg), initially for patients experiencing treatment failure on DTG, with early data expected later in 2022.

The CHAI [HIV New Product Introduction Toolkit](#) has numerous resources supporting DRV/r adoption and introduction

# TREAT RIGHT Adults

## Pipeline and Newly Approved Adult Products



### Cabotegravir (CAB) + Rilpivirine (RPV) for Treatment

- Injectable CAB+RPV approved by the US FDA for monthly treatment of HIV in Jan. 2021, with dosing schedule updated to every 8 weeks in Feb. 2022
- [ATLAS-2M](#): Injectable CAB+RPV dosed every 8 weeks is non-inferior to dosing every 4 weeks



### Lenacapavir (LEN) for Prevention and Treatment

- [CAPELLA/CALIBRATE](#): Injectable LEN dosed every 6-months produces sufficient viral suppression
- Injectable 6-month LEN also being studied for PrEP
- Status: The US FDA lifted a clinical hold on injectable LEN in [May 2022](#) following a resolution over concerns related to the compatibility of LEN and borosilicate vials



### Islatravir (ISL) for Prevention and Treatment

- [ILLUMINATE SWITCH A&B](#): Daily oral ISL/DOR produced a viral response comparable to existing ART regimens
- ISL also being studied in oral and implant formulations for PrEP
- Status: The US FDA placed a partial clinical hold in [Dec. 2021](#) based on decreases in total lymphocyte and CD4+ T-cell counts in some participants receiving ISL in studies

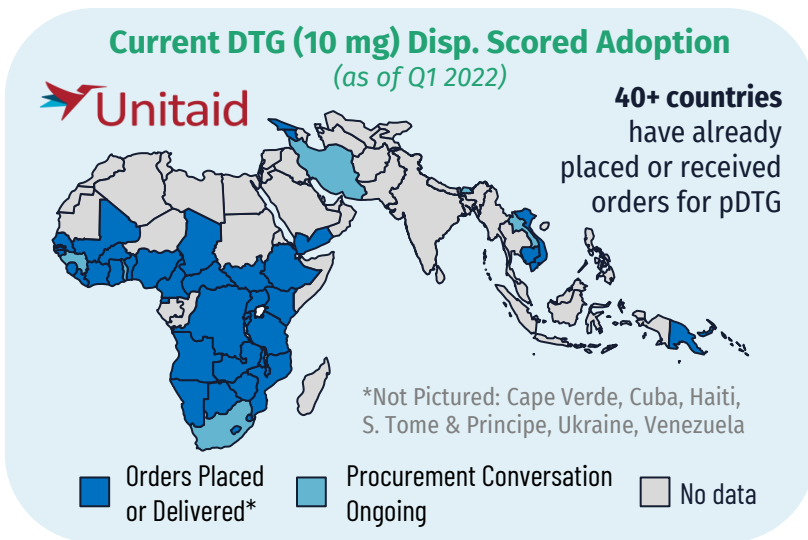


### ISL + LEN for Treatment

- Active trial of weekly oral formulation for treatment-experienced virologically-suppressed adult PLHIV in the US
- Status: [Enrollment paused](#) based on ISL clinical hold

# TREAT RIGHT Pediatrics

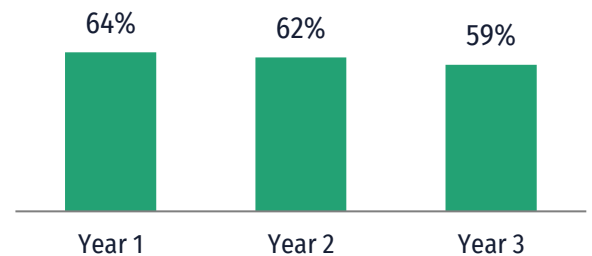
## Pediatric Dolutegravir (pDTG)



Persistent **low viral suppression among children** following ART initiation reinforces the importance of rapidly initiating and transitioning CLHIV to pDTG.

### Viral Suppression Following ART Initiation

Children <18 years old



Slow uptake of pDTG seen in some countries due to VL requirements.

- According to the WHO, VL monitoring remains a good practice, but should not be considered a precondition to pDTG transitions

**94%** of 2021 pediatric product procurement as seen by the APWG considered 'optimal' under the 2021 WHO Optimal Formulary and Limited-Use List.



"Children should not have their transition to DTG delayed due to lack of documented viral load."  
- 2021 WHO Optimal Formulary

Community and facility-level resources to support pDTG introduction can be accessed on the [CHAI HIV New Product Introduction Toolkit](#)

## Pipeline Pediatric Treatment Products

**pALD (60/30/5 mg)**: In March 2022 the US FDA approved ViiV's dispersible tablet formulation. CHAI & are working to bring a generic version to market.

Development of generic **pDRV/r** and **pTAF** is also underway, further improving treatment options for children.



# STAY NEGATIVE

## Major Product Development and Regulatory Updates

### Cabotegravir Long-Acting (CAB-LA)

- In December 2021, the US FDA approved CAB-LA for HIV PrEP in at-risk adults and adolescents weighing at least 35 kg
- Administered every 8 weeks (after first two doses), CAB-LA is a highly effective, injectable option for HIV PrEP, which may improve adherence
- On May 27, 2022, [ViiV committed](#) to voluntarily license CAB-LA, a critical first step in enabling widespread, affordable access


### Key Steps for CAB-LA Introduction



 WHO is reviewing evidence to inform CAB-LA guidance, which is expected mid-2022	 Coordinated planning between communities, donors, and governments will be critical	 Implementation tools to support efficient delivery need to be developed
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### Research & Evidence Generation

- 1 To inform further evidence generation, [Unitaid](#) and [USAID](#) are planning implementation science projects
- 2 Laboratory analysis of the HPTN 083 trial found that use of an RNA assay at screening may help identify HIV infections earlier and reduce the risk of INSTI resistance
  - However, HPTN researchers highlight that lack of RNA screening should not limit access

### Dapivirine Vaginal Ring (DVR)


-  In December 2021, the International Partnership for Microbicides voluntarily withdrew its application to the US FDA based on feedback that approval was unlikely based on current data and given the context of the HIV prevention landscape for women in the US.

-  The WHO conditionally recommends the ring alongside oral PrEP as a choice for women who do not want or are unable to take a daily oral tablet.
-  The DVR has received national regulatory approval in Zimbabwe and South Africa. It will also be offered in introduction studies in LMICs.

### Dual Prevention Pill (DPP)

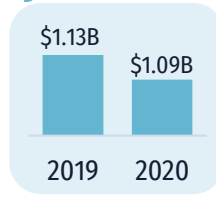
- Bioequivalence (BE) studies are ongoing. Based on current timelines, US FDA submission is estimated for late 2023
- CHAI is engaged in advanced planning for introduction of DPP as part of the broader pipeline of multipurpose prevention technologies (MPTs) introduction

### Islatravir & Lenacapavir

-  The US FDA placed clinical holds on treatment and prevention trials involving both of these products in late 2021. The hold on LEN has since been lifted although the hold on ISL remains. See the *Treat Right* section for more information.

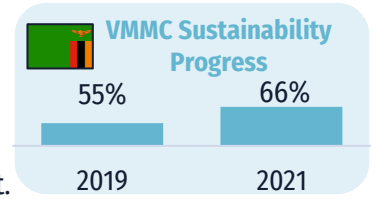
## Funding and Sustainability Planning

- Funding for HIV prevention research and development decreased 4.4% in 2020
- Prevention funding focused on access will be critical to support new product introduction



### VMMC

Progress toward country-defined VMMC sustainability targets increased in Zambia between 2019 and 2021 despite ongoing COVID impact.



### DATA SOURCES

- 1 CHAI's annual data request to 25+ LMICs
- 2 Articles from journals and news outlets
- 3 Supplier and partner market intelligence
- 4 Major conferences and meetings
- 5 WHO guidelines and PEPFAR technical guidance

- 1L:** First-line
- 2L:** Second-line
- 3L:** Third-line
- 3TC:** Lamivudine
- ALD:** ABC/3TC/DTG
- API:** Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient
- APWG:** ARV Procurement Working Group
- ART:** Antiretroviral therapy
- ARV:** Antiretroviral
- ATV/r:** Atazanavir/ritonavir
- AZT:** Zidovudine
- CAB:** Cabotegravir
- CLHIV:** Children living with HIV
- COP:** Country Operational Plan

## ACRONYMS USED

- DOR:** Doravirine
- DRV/r:** Darunavir/ritonavir
- DTG:** Dolutegravir
- DVR:** Dapivirine Vaginal Ring
- EMAV:** Early Market Access Vehicle
- ERP:** Expert Review Panel for Diagnostics
- EXW:** Ex works
- FTC:** Emtricitabine
- GF:** Global Fund
- HPTN:** HIV Prevention Trials Network
- INSTI:** Integrase strand transfer inhibitor
- ISL:** Islatravir
- LEN:** Lenacapavir
- LMIC:** Low- and middle-income country
- LPV/r:** Lopinavir/ritonavir
- PEP:** Post-exposure prophylaxis
- PI:** Protease Inhibitor
- PLHIV:** People living with HIV
- POC:** Point of care
- PrEP:** Pre-exposure prophylaxis
- RPV:** Rilpivirine
- TAF:** Tenofovir alafenamide fumarate
- TDF:** Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate
- TLD:** TDF/3TC/DTG
- VL:** Viral load
- WHO:** World Health Organization

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