

ATTENTION: ~~SECRET~~

DOCUMENT FOR DR. KALOMBO

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Reference: Access to ART

To: Provincial HAST Managers
Provincial CCMT Project Managers

Dear All

RE: ACCESS TO COMPREHESIVE HIV & AIDS CARE INCLUDING ANTI RETROVIRAL TREATMENT

The Comprehensive HIV & AIDS, Care, Management and Treatment, Operational Plan was approved by parliament in November 2003 and implementation commenced in April 2004. The programme has brought challenges in all provinces regarding access to treatment by patients who do not possess a South African Identity Document.

The criteria used to identify patients illegible for ART must be applied to all cases, individually without discrimination. Issues that can affect adherence and hence compromise patient's health must be seriously considered, so that the decision to commence ART is the best for the patient under all circumstances.

Patients should not be denied ART because they do not have an ID if all issues affecting adherence have been addressed and the treatment team is convinced that the patient stands to benefit from the intervention.

Thank you,

05/05/2005.

Dr ND Kalombo
Project Manager: Comprehensive HIV & AIDS Care, Management and Treatment Plan.
NDOH.

CC: Dr N Xundu
Cluster Manager: HIV & AIDS, STI and TB