TO:

HEADS OF DEPARTMENT
HEADS OF PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES
CHIEF DIRECTORS: RESPONSIBLE FOR HIV

NOTICE: USE OF FIXED DOSE COMBINATIONS FOR FIRST AND SECOND LINE ANTIRETROVIRAL TREATMENT REGIMENS

There are four fixed dose combination (FDC) antiretroviral (ARV) products available on HP13-2015ARV: Supply and Delivery of Antiretroviral Medicines April 2015 – March 2018:

- Abacavir (ABC) 600mg + Lamivudine (3TC) 300mg
- Tenofovir (TDF) 300mg + Emtricitabine (FTC) 200mg
- Tenofovir (TDF) 300mg + Emtricitabine (FTC) 200mg + Efavirenz (EFV) 600mg
- Zidovudine (AZT) 300mg + Lamivudine (3TC) 150mg

All clinically eligible patients on first and second line adult ARV regimens should be utilising the available FDCs as follows in accordance with National Antiretroviral Treatment (ART) guidelines:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Line Regimens</th>
<th>Indication</th>
<th>Regimen</th>
<th>Fixed dose combination products/s to be used for this regimen</th>
<th>Addition of single ARVs to FDC combination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preferred 1st line regimen</td>
<td>TDF + 3TC or FTC + EFV</td>
<td>TDF + FTC + EFV FDC combination</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contraindication to EFV</td>
<td>TDF + 3TC or FTC + NVP</td>
<td>TDF + FTC FDC combination</td>
<td>NVP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contraindication to TDF</td>
<td>AZT + 3TC + EFV</td>
<td>AZT + 3TC FDC combination</td>
<td>EFV</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contraindication to TDF + EFV</td>
<td>AZT + 3TC + NVP</td>
<td>AZT + 3TC FDC combination</td>
<td>NVP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contraindication to TDF + AZT</td>
<td>ABC + 3TC + EFV</td>
<td>ABC + 3TC FDC combination</td>
<td>EFV</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contraindication to TDF + AZT + EFV</td>
<td>ABC + 3TC + NVP</td>
<td>ABC + 3TC FDC combination</td>
<td>NVP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note**

- This notice does not apply to patients with clinical indications requiring doses not covered by the available fixed dose combinations.
- The use of Nevirapine in pregnancy should be avoided.
## Second Line Regimens

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indication</th>
<th>Regimen</th>
<th>Fixed dose combination product/s to be used for this regimen</th>
<th>Addition of single ARVs to FDC combination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Failing a TDF-based first-line regimen</td>
<td>AZT + 3TC + LPV/r</td>
<td>AZT + 3TC FDC combination</td>
<td>LPV/r</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failing a TDF-based first-line regimen + if HBV co-infected</td>
<td>AZT + TDF + 3TC + LPV/r</td>
<td>AZT + 3TC FDC combination</td>
<td>TDF + LPV/r</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failing a D4T or AZT-based first-line regimen</td>
<td>TDF + 3TC or FTC + LPV/r</td>
<td>TDF + FTC FDC combination</td>
<td>TDF + 3TC + LPV/r</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patients with anaemia and renal failure</td>
<td>ABC + 3TC + LPV/r</td>
<td>ABC + 3TC FDC combination</td>
<td>LPV/r</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Note**
- Patients unable to tolerate LPV/r should be switched to ATV/r:
  - ATV/r is part of a second line regimen not requiring specialist motivation;
  - ATV/r is not a combination product therefore both single agents of atazanavir and ritonavir are required.

Provinces and Health Care Facilities are requested to:
- Distribute and communicate this information in consultation with Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committees;
- Consult the National Antiretroviral Treatment Guidelines for comprehensive guidance on all regimens.

Comments and queries may be submitted to:

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Kind regards

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