Long-acting formulations: A community perspective

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Background

• I’ve discussed long-acting injections in HIV+ meetings for more than 10 years
• My personal preference for daily oral tablets is NOT representative
• STRONG COMMUNITY SUPPORT AS AN EXCITING OPTION
• Caveat: must remain a choice
Advantages

• Adherence – less chance to forget
• Improved privacy
• Reduced GI and other side effects (better targeting), cost and waste (less API, less protein-binding)
• Perhaps reduced monitoring
• Examples: contraception & depot antipsychotics (Adams CE, 2001; Schooler NR, 2003)
Adherence

• Many people adhere well but most common problem is – “just forgetting”
• Differences between starting treatment and maintenance treatment (starting is perhaps more difficult)
• Takes doctors views out of issues for treatment failure etc – possible research developments
HIV+ women

- Preferred choice for contraception
  (Tsehaye, Int J Family Med. 2013)
- Regional: In E. Africa & S. Africa
  >40% of overall contraceptive use is injectable/implant
  (UN, World Contraceptive Use, 2007)
- Privacy: HIV and gender-based violence
Children & adolescents

- All about adherence for children & taking risks is part of adolescence
- Normalise childhood
- Reduced resistance fewer drug options for children
- Impact on long-term health
- Regulatory issues: challenge to study invasive options, volume?
Resource-limited settings

- Reduce supply issues: stock-outs still common in many regions
- Reduced need to travel: often considerable distances + cost
- Confidentiality – and link to secrecy and violence
Urgency as PrEP

- Urgency for fast track development
- Macaque efficacy similar to TDF/FTC
- Regulatory pathways already developed (for TDF/FTC)
- Overcomes adherence issues: a primary limitation of oral PrEP
Outstanding issues

• Need for combination essential
• Should be a choice
• Volume, frequency and formulation: $3 > 2 > 1$mo; IM vs SC; sterility, stability, timing?
• Oral sensitisation (EMA mandated) vs antidote?
• Cost & access? (Ross E et al, IDWeek 2013)
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