

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 > 1mo; IM vs SC; sterility, stability, timing?
- Oral sensitisation (EMA mandated) vs antidote?
- Cost & access? (Ross E et al, IDWeek 2013)

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