

## IAS 2021 Updates: Pregnancy/Pediatric HIV, ARTassociated Weight Gain, and Opportunistic Infections

Rebecca M. Zash, MD

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Harvard Medical School





CHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTI



## **HIV and Pregnancy**

## Prior Data (IMPAACT 2010) suggests TAF/FTC/DTG may be best regimen started during pregnancy

**VESTED (N=653):** Three-arm, randomized, open-label study of pregnant women with HIV-1 initiating <u>DTG/FTC/TDF vs. DTG/FTC/TAF vs. EFV/FTC/TDF</u> at 14-28 weeks gestation. (Chinula et al. CROI 2021, Lockman Lancet 2021)

#### Results: Maternal Virologic Outcomes



11





#### **1. Better Viral Suppression**

#### 2. Fewer Adverse Birth Outcomes

#### Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes by Arm

Prior Data (IMPAACT 2010, 'VESTED') suggests TAF/FTC/DTG may be best regimen in pregnancy

## **DHHS Perinatal Guidelines Update**

- $\rightarrow$  2021: *upgraded TAF* from alternate to preferred NRTI (with TDF and ABC)
- →*DTG already preferred* for pregnancy and people trying to conceive (with RAL, ATZ/r and DRV/r)

**WHO ART Treatment Guidelines** 

- $\rightarrow$  Since 2019: TDF + XTC + DTG is preferred first-line
- $\rightarrow$  TAF in selected situations (renal failure, osteoporosis)

1. Better Viral Suppression

## What about Neural Tube Defects?

- No data on TAF at conception
  - TDF without any concern for birth defect with conception exposure
- As data have accrued in Tsepamo, updates have been increasingly reassuring:
  - Prevalence of NTDs with Periconception DTG Exposure
    - AIDS 2018: 0.94% (4/426)
    - IAS 2019: 0.30% (5/1693)
    - AIDS 2020: 0.19% (7/3591)

## **Tsepamo Results March 2021 (IAS 2021)**



## **Tsepamo Results March 2021 (IAS 2021)**

IAS2021 Abstract: Zash et al,

## Prevalence Difference of NTDs by Antiretroviral and HIV Exposure Categories, 2014-2021

Exposure group vs. Comparison group	Prevalence Difference (%) (95% CI)
DTG at conception vs. Non-DTG at conception	0.06% (-0.03, 0.20)
DTG at conception vs. EFV at conception	0.09% (-0.00, 0.23)
DTG at conception vs. DTG started in pregnancy	0.10% (-0.03, 0.24)
DTG at conception vs. Women without HIV	0.09% (0.01, 0.23)

• These data support WHO and DHHS guidelines for use of DTG as first-line among pregnant people, people of reproductive potential and people trying to conceive

## Bone Mineral Density in post-partum women and their infants Data from IMPAACT 2010

Mbengeranwa T et al. International Pediatric HIV Workshop Abs 12

## Pregnant women randomized to DTG/TDF/FTC vs. DTG/TAF/FTC vs. EFV/TDF/EFV at 14-28 weeks GA

 DXA evaluation at week 50 postpartum in 154 participants (median duration ART 66 wk, median duration BF 44 wk) and 165 infants (median age 5.8 mo) at 26 wks

Post-Partum Women: No significant difference BMD z scores between treatment arms; lowest in EFV/TDF/3TC arm



Infant: No significant difference BMD z-scores between treatment arms for whole body; but significantly lower **spine** BMC in **EFV/TDF/3TC** arm



## **Prevention of HIV in pregnancy**

- Is PrEP safe in pregnancy?
  - lots of data on safety of TDF/FTC from pregnant women living with HIV
  - but some see higher bar for PrEP because it is not required for maternal treatment

### **DELIVER/MTN-042** Cohort 1

### Safety of Dapivirine Ring in Late Pregnancy

IAS 2021 Makanani B et al. Abs PECLB26

**STUDY DESIGN:** Pregnant women randomized 2:1 to monthly dapivirine ring or daily oral TDF/FTC starting at 36-37 weeks gestation (Cohort 1)



- Adverse pregnancy outcomes and complications were uncommon in small sample
- Study will move on to Cohort 2 (randomize at 30-35 weeks gestation)

## PrIMA Study: Prenatal PrEP Exposure and Growth Outcomes in Kenyan Infants

IAS 2021Gomez L et al. Abs PEC353

**Study Design:** Cluster randomized trial of PrEP (with TDF/FTC) counseling strategies for women attending antenatal care in 20 facilities in Western Kenya

### Table 2: Infant growth at 6-weeks, 6-months and 9-months by prenatal PrEP exposure (n=4019)

	Median	(IQR)		_
	PrEP Unexposed (n=3471)	PrEP Exposed (n=548)	Adjusted Coeff (95% CI)*	p-value
Weight (kg) 6-week	5.0 (4.5, 5.4)	5.0 (4.5, 5.4)	0.03 (-0.06, 0.11)	0.52
6-month	7.7 (7.0, 8.5)	7.8 (7.2, 8.7)	0.22 (0.08, 0.36)	0.004
9-month	8.6 (7.9, 9.6)	8.6 (8.0, 9.5)	0.09 (-0.04, 0.21)	0.16
Length (cm) 6-week	55.0 (54.0, 57.0)	55.3 (54.0, 57.2)	-0.60 (-2.01, 0.81)	0.39
6-month	66.0 (64.0, 68.0)	66.0 (64.0, 69.0)	0.31 (-0.51, 1.13)	0.44
9-month	70.0 (68, 72)	70.5 (68.6, 72.0)	-0.02 (-1.32, 1.28)	0.97
*Adjusted for gestational	l age at birth, maternal sypl	hilis, maternal age and par	rtner HIV status	

No differences in median weight, length or adverse infant growth outcomes among infants exposed vs. unexposed to PrEP in-utero

#### Figure 1: Infant growth outcomes by prenatal PrEP exposure status (n=4019)\*



\*Adjusted for gestational age at birth, maternal syphilis, maternal age and partner status

Results were similar when analyzed separately by trimester of PrEP initiation

## **Pediatric HIV**

## **Poor Viral Suppression in Pediatric Populations**

mber of adults

- Generating data on newer ARVs has been frustratingly slow in pediatric populations
  - Use of older, less well tolerated ART with more side effects in children
- Odyssey Trial (Turkova et al. CROI 2021 abs. 174) found that DTG-based ART was superior to standard of care (SOC) for children >14kg (older children, median age 12)



Children 0-14 vears

Adults



Source: UNAIDS special analysis, 2021.

## The ODYSSEY Trial: Evaluation of DTG-Based ART vs SOC in Young Children <14 Kg

IAS 2021 Amuge P et al. PEBLB18

85 children enrolled

- n= 23 <6kg; n=40, 6-<10kg; n=22, 10-<14 kg)</p>
- Median baseline age (IQR): 1.4 years (0.6, 2.0)
- SOC ART was LPV/r in 74%

Follow-up:

- Median FU (IQR): 120 weeks (97, 132)
- Only 5 (6%) LTFU

## The ODYSSEY Trial: Evaluation of DTG-Based ART vs SOC in Young Children <14 Kg

IAS 2021 Amuge P et al. PEBLB18

	DTG N=42	SOC N=43	Total N=85
Primary endpoint (viral or clinical failure)	11 (26%)	21 (49%)	32 (38%)
Confirmed VL >400 c/mL >36 weeks	8 (19%)	16 (37%)	24 (28%)
WHO stage 4 event	1 (2%)	1 (2%)	2 (2%)
Death	2 (5%)	4 (9%)	6 (7%)





#### **Evaluation of DTG-Based ART for children (real world data)** IAS 2021 Abstract Bacha et al. OALB0504

- Retrospective review of data (Jan 2017-Dec 2020) from Baylor sites in 6 countries (Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi, Botswana, Eswatini, and Lesotho) (N=9419)
  - Children 0-19 y.o. enrolled in HIV care who were switched to DTG ART (93% were virally suppressed pre-switch)
- Previously suppressed who remained suppressed w/DTG:
  - 6645/7026 (95%)
- Previously unsuppressed who became suppressed w/DTG:
  - 426/534 (80%) overall
  - including 73/88 (83%) who remained on the same NRTI backbone

## Weight Gain and ART

- Accumulating evidence that while weight gain common with all ART:
  - Weight gain is most highly associated with newer INSTIs (DTG and BIC) and TAF
  - TDF may suppress weight gain



Sax P et al. Clin Infect Dis. 2020;71:1379

ART-Related Obesity Rates at 96 (in women with normal BMI baseline)



ADVANCE Study (S. Africa) AIDS 2020 Sokhela et al. OAXLB0104

Cisgender women at particularly high risk of excess weight gain

### Weight Gain in TANGO vs. SALSA: More data for TAF and INSTI

IAS 2021 abstract van Wyk et al. PEB164 and Llibre et al OALB0303

TANGO Study Design: Randomized, open label, non-inferiority study (multiple countries) among virally suppressed (>6m) adults on TAFbased ART to switch to DTG/3TC vs. continue TAF-based ART

SALSA Study Design: Randomized, open label, non-inferiority study (multiple countries) among virally suppressed (>6m) adults on any ART\* to switch to DTG/3TC vs. continue TAF-based ART \*44% on TDF-based ART and 60% on NNRTI or PI

Mean weight changes (144wks): +2.2kg with switch to DTG/3TC +1.7 kg with continued TAF-based ART Mean weight changes (48wks): +2.1kg with switch to DTG/3TC +0.6 kg with continued ART

### **TANGO: Week 144 Weight Gain Metabolic Outcomes**

IAS 2021 abstract van Wyk et al. PEB164

**Study Design:** Randomized, open label, non-inferiority study (multiple countries) among virally suppressed (>6m) adults on TAF-based ART to switch to DTG/3TC vs. continue TAF-based ART

#### Mean weight changes:

+2.2kg with DTG/3TC +1.7 kg with TAF-based ART

## No difference between groups in:

-change in glucose

-insulin resistance

-proportion with metabolic syndrome

Outcome: Adjusted ∆ From Baseline*, %	Switch to DTG/3TC (n = 243)	Continue TAF-Based ART (n = 230)
TC, mmol/L	-3.3	+4.2
HDL, mmol/L	-2.4	+3.9
LDL, mmol/L	-3.0	+4.6
TG, mmol/L	-9.7	+2.2
TC: HDL ratio	-0.9	+0.3

### **TANGO: Week 144 Weight Gain Metabolic Outcomes**

IAS 2021 abstract van Wyk et al. PEB164

**Study Design:** Randomized, open label, non-inferiority study (multiple countries) among virally suppressed (>6m) adults on TAF-based ART to switch to DTG/3TC vs. continue TAF-based ART

Mean wei	ght changes:	Outcome: Adjusted A	Switch to	Continue			
+2.2kg wi +1.7 kg wi +1.7 kg wi							
+1.7 kg w	elevation in lipids	with TAF.	= 230)				
No differ	4.2						
groups in Lipid Abnormalities may be most closely associated with TAF???							
-change in	sistance	LDL, mmol/L	-3.0	+4.6			
-proportic	on with metabolic	TG, mmol/L	-9.7	+2.2			
syndrome		TC: HDL ratio	-0.9	+0.3			

#### Weight Gain and Change in BMI *in Children* DTG vs SOC in the ODYSSEY Trial

IAS 2021 Mujuru H et al., PEB202

## At baseline only 5% overweight, 1% obese $\rightarrow$ 25 (4%) were newly overweight/obese at 96 weeks: **14 (4%) DTG, 11 (3%) SOC, p=0.55.**



The differences occurred early and stabilized

The differences occurred early and gap between arms did not increase with time

Children grew better after switching tp DTG vs SOC; differences between arms in weight, height and BMI were small ... **DTG-based ART was not associated with excessive weight gain in children.** 

#### Impact of DTG on Weight Gain in Adolescents

International Pediatric HIV Workshop 2021. Masunga E et al Abs 8

**Study Design**: Retrospective study of 229 adolescents in routine care (aged 10-19 years) on DTG ART for >6 months (91% switched from other ART regimen) and compared weight before (DTG switch visit) and after (visit after six months DTG).



#### The percent of adolescents who were overweight increased

- From 1.7% (4/229) before DTG to 8.7% (20/229) after being on DTG for 6 months
- 16 overweight, 4 obese

- Somewhat difficult to interpret because they were lacking a comparator group
  - Unknown if there was a positive impact on underweight

## **Opportunistic Infections**

## **Cryptococcal Meningitis**

- Cryptococcal Meningitis is the second-leading cause of AIDS-associated mortality
- In resource limited settings, WHO recommended treatment with amphoteracin B (7-14 days) is associated with high rate of adverse effects and high costs for inpatient admission and laboratory monitoring
  - The alternative recommended treatment, with high dose fluconazole, has ~60% mortality
- The liposomal formulation of amphoteracin (LAmB) has fewer side effects, and a long half life
  - LAmB is not widely available in sub Saharan Africa where the burden of crypto is the highest

### **Cryptococcal Meningitis: AMBITION-CM Trial**

IAS2021 Abstract: Lawrence et al OALB01LB03

**Study Design:** Randomized, open label, non-inferiority study (multiple African countries)

≥18 years old w/HIV infection with first episode of HIV-associated cryptococcal meningitis Liposomal AmB 10 mg/kg single dose + 5FC 100 mg/kg QD for 14 days + FLU 1200 mg QD for 14 days (n = 421)

AmB 1 mg/kg for 7 days + 5FC 100 mg/kg QD for 7 days followed by FLU 1200 mg QD for 7 days (n = 423)

WHO recommended treatment in resource limited settings

FLU 800 mg QD for 8 wk; ART initiated 4-6 wk after start of antifungal therapy

### **Cryptococcal Meningitis: AMBITION-CM Trial**

IAS2021 Abstract: Lawrence et al OALB01LB03

Primary outcome: all-cause mortality at 10 wk with noninferiority margin of

10%

#### **Overall Mortality at 10 weeks:**

- Liposomal AmB: 101/407 (24.8%)
- Amphoteracin B:117/407 (28.75)

\*\*0 LTFU



### **Cryptococcal Meningitis: AMBITION-CM Study**

IAS2021 Abstract: Lawrence et al OALB01LB03

	LAmB (n = 420)	AmB (n = 422)	P Value
Total # grade 3/4 events	382	579	<.001
Any AE, n (%) Grade 3 Grade 4	173 (41) 91 (22)	225 (53) 127 (30)	<.001 .005
Anemia, n (%) Grade 3 Grade 4	44 (10) 12 (3)	108 (26) 62 (15)	<.001 <.001
Rcvd transfusion, n (%)	32 (8)	76 (18)	<.001
Hypokalemia Grade 3 Grade 4	6 (2) 0 (0)	27 (6) 3 (1)	<.001 .25
Mean % change in creatinine level to Day 7	20.2	49.7	<.001

#### Safety Outcomes: Liposomal formulation (LAmB) vs. Standard Amphoteracin B (AmB)

	LAmB (n = 420)	AmB (n = 422)	P Valu e
Creatinine increase, n (%) • Grade 3 • Grade 4	17 (4) 5 (1)	22 (5) 3 (1)	.42 .505
Neutropenia Grade 3 Grade 4	27 (6)	21 (5)	.36
	20 (5)	16 4)	.49
Thrombocytopenia Grade 3 Grade 4	9 (2)	17 (4)	.11
	4 (1)	6 (1)	.75
Elevated ALT <ul> <li>Grade 3</li> <li>Grade 4</li> </ul>	6 (1)	4 (1)	.52
	1 (0.2)	1 (0.2)	1.0

## **Drug Resistant Tuberculosis**

WHO Classification of drug resistant TB				
Rifampin-resistant TB (RR)	Resistant to RIF			
Multidrug resistant TB (MDR)	Resistant to at least INH and RIF			
Pre-extensively drug resistant TB (pre-XDR)	MDR/RR TB also resistant to any fluoroquinolone			
Extensively drug resistant TB (XDR)	MDR/RR TB TB that is also resistant to any fluoroquinolone AND any Group A drug (levo, moxi, bedaquiline and linezolid)			

Approximately 500,000 people per year develop multi-drug resistant TB

- Cure rates are only ~50-60% for MDR-TB
- Regimens are complicated (up to 20 pills/day) with lengthy duration (9-24 months)

## ZeNix: Pretomanid, Bedaquiline, and Linezolid (BPaL) in Treatment of *Highly Resistant TB*

IAS2021 Abstract: Conradie et al. OALB01LB02

Study Design: Randomized, partially-blind (to linezolid dose and duration) phase 3

≥14 yr olds with XDR, or pre-XDR drug-resistance, treatment-intolerant or non-responsive MDR TB

- 88% with pre/XDR-TB
  - 20% with HIV



## ZeNix: Pretomanid, Bedaquiline, and Linezolid (BPaL) in Treatment of Highly Resistant TB

IAS2021 Abstract: Conradie et al. OALB01LB02

	BPaL With Linezolid 1200 mg x 6 mo (n = 45)	BPaL With Linezolid 1200 mg x 2 mo (n = 46)	BPaL With Linezolid 600 mg x 6 mo (n = 45)	BPal With Linezolid 600 mg x 2 mo (n = 45)	
No. assessable	44	45	44	44	
Favorable [95% Cl]	41 ( <b>93.2</b> ) [81.3-98.6]	40 ( <b>88.9</b> ) [75.9-96.3]	40 ( <b>90.9</b> ) [78.3-97.5]	37 ( <b>84.1</b> ) [69.9-93.4]	
Unfavorable <ul> <li>Lost to follow-up</li> <li>Withdrawn – AE</li> <li>Withdrawn – investigator/sponsor</li> </ul>	3 (6.8) 0 1 0	5 (11.1) 0 1 0	4 (9.1) 0 0 1	7 (15.9) 1 2 0	Only 1 treat ment
<ul> <li>Withdrawn – patient</li> <li>Withdrawn – treatment failure</li> </ul>	0 0	2 0	1 0	1	failure
<ul> <li>Confirmed relapse post- treatment</li> </ul>	0	2	1	1	
<ul> <li>Re-treatment post- treatment</li> </ul>	2	0	1	1	

## ZeNix: Pretomanid, Bedaquiline, and Linezolid (BPaL) in Treatment of Highly Resistant TB

IAS2021 Abstract: Conradie et al. OALB01LB02

Treatment Emergent Adverse Event	rse BPaL With Linezolid 1200 mg x 6 mo (n = 45) BPaL With Linezolid 1200 mg x 2 mo (n = 46) BPaL With Linezolid 600 mg x 6 mo (n = 45)		BPal With Linezolid 600 mg x 2 mo (n = 45)	
Any TEAE Grade ≥3	14 (31.1)	11 (23.9)	9 (20.0)	11 (24.4)
Any serious TEAE	3 (6.7)	4 (8.7)	1 (2.2)	3 (6.7)
Peripheral neuropathy	17 (37.8)	11 (23.9)	11 (24.4)	6 (13.3)
Optic neuropathy	4 (8.8)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Worsening grade of anemia	10 (22.2)	8 (17.4)	1 (2.2)	3 (6.7)
Linezolid dose modification (reduction, interruption, or discontinuation)	23 (51)	13 (28)	6 (13)	6 (13)

Higher dose linezolid with more adverse effects

## Thank you!

• Questions.....

## IAS 2021 Update



Raj Gandhi, MD Massachusetts General Hospital Harvard Medical School

Disclosures: None in the past year. Thanks to Efe Airewele for assistance with slides

## Outline

- ART Advances
- HIV Cure Updates
- COVID-19 and HIV



## **ART Advances**

- 2 drug therapy with DTG/3TC
- Cabotegravir/rilpivirine
- New Drugs

## **TANGO: Switching from TAF-based ART to DTG/3TC**





## **TANGO: Switching from TAF-based ART to DTG/3TC**



## What about low-level viremia with DTG/3TC?

			DTG/3TC (N=369)	)		TBR (N=372)	
			Baseline			Baseline	
VL	sub-categories	TND n <sup>1</sup> =302 (82%)	TD n <sup>1</sup> =51 (14%)	≥40 c/mL n¹=11 (3%)	TND n <sup>1</sup> =303 (81%)	TD n¹=59 (16%)	≥40 c/mL n¹=9 (2%)
0	At least one VL ≥50 c/mL <sup>2</sup>	14 (5%)	7 (14%)	2 (18%)	26 (9%)	9 (15%)	1 (11%)
aseline	At least one 40≤ VL <50 c/mL <sup>2</sup>	5 (2%)	5 (10%)	1 (9%)	10 (3%)	3 (5%)	1 (11%)
ost-bé	At least one VL <40 c/mL & TD <sup>2</sup>	152 (50%)	33 (65%)	8 (73%)	160 (53%)	41 (69%)	6 (67%)
EL.	All VLs <40 c/mL & TND <sup>2</sup>	131 (43%)	6 (12%)	0 (0%)	107 (35%)	6 (10%)	1 (11%)

Low level viremia (VL <40, target not detected) not more frequent with DTG/3TC

### SALSA: DTG/3TC for Maintenance Therapy

 SALSA: efficacy of switching to DTG/3TC compared with continuing any current 3- or 4-drug ART regimen

ation <sup>a</sup> Randomization phase	
DTG/3TC (N=246)	
CAR (N=247)	
	ation <sup>a</sup> Randomization phase DTG/3TC (N=246) CAR (N=247)

Who was in SALSA?

- Duration of ART: about 5-6 yr
- NRTI: TDF (44%)
- Baseline 3<sup>rd</sup> agent:
  - INSTI (40%)
  - NNRTI (50%)
  - PI (10%)

CAR: current antiretroviral therapy

### SALSA: DTG/3TC Non-Inferior to Continuing 3- or 4-Drug Therapy



- No participant had confirmed virologic withdrawal; no participant had resistance
- Adjusted mean change in weight from baseline to wk 48: 2.1 kg in DTG/3TC group, 0.6 kg in CAR group

#### **LA Cabotegravir/Rilpivirine in PWH with Suppressed HIV RNA:** FLAIR Week 124 Results

Cabotegravir (CAB), an INSTI, and rilpivirine (RPV), an NNRTI, available in long-acting nanosuspension formulations that can be given by injection



One additional participant had confirmed virologic failure since week 96 analysis: developed NNRTI and INSTI resistance; total of 5 participants with confirmed virologic failure

## **CAB/RPV:** Risk factors for Virologic Failure

- 13/1039 (1.25%) participants had confirmed virologic failure (CVF) in ATLAS, FLAIR, ATLAS-2M
- Risk factors for CVF identified
- 96.7% had 0 or 1 risk factor for CVF
  - 0.4% of them had CVF

Parameter	OR
RPV RAM(s) at baseline	40.36
Week 8 RPV trough concentration	5.00
Baseline HIV-1 subtype A1/A6	5.92
BMI (kg/m2) at baseline	1.13

### **Prevalence of Genotypic Risk Factors for CAB/RPV Failure: France**

- ART naïve patients between 2010 and 2020 in Paris (n=4212)
- 10.1% of sequences had genotypic risk factor for CAB/RPV failure (RPV resistance or HIV A1/A6 subtype)
- Only 0.4% had 2 genotypic risk factors for CAB/RPV failure



--- INDICATIONS AND USAGE-----

CAB/RPV ... is indicated as a complete regimen for the treatment of HIV-1 infection in adults to replace the current antiretroviral regimen in those who are virologically suppressed (HIV-1 RNA less than 50 copies per mL) on a stable antiretroviral regimen with no history of treatment failure and with no known or suspected resistance to either cabotegravir or rilpivirine.

## **New Drugs in Development**



Gandhi M, Gandhi RT. NEJM 2014;371:248-259.

## CALIBRATE: Lenacapavir (LEN) in Treatment Naive

- Investigational capsid inhibitor. Oral formulation: median half-life 11-13 d; subcutaneous injection: every 6 months
- CALIBRATE: LEN in treatment naïve PWH: induction/maintenance with SC or oral LEN



#### Capsid inh.

## CALIBRATE: Lenacapavir (LEN) in Treatment Naïve: Wk 28



Gupta S et al, IAS 2021, Abstract OALB0302

#### Capsid inh.

## CALIBRATE: Lenacapavir (LEN) in Treatment Naive

- One participant in TG 2 had emergent resistance mutations at Week 10
  - CA: Q67H+K70R

(LEN fold change=20)

- RT: M184M/I
- Plasma LEN concentrations were consistently in target range<sup>†</sup>



## **CAPELLA: LEN in People with Drug Resistant HIV**



#### **OBR: optimized background regimen**

#### Capsid inh.

## **CAPELLA: LEN in People with Drug Resistant HIV**

	Randomized		Nonrandomized	
	LEN n=24	Placebo n=12	LEN n=36	Total N=72
Age, median (range), years	55 (24 - 71)	54 (27 - 59)	49 (23 - 78)	52 (23 - 78)
Sex, % female at birth	29	25	22	25
Race, % Black	42	55	31	38
Ethnicity, % Hispanic/Latinx	25	36	14	21
HIV-1 RNA, median (range), log <sub>10</sub> copies/mL	4.2 (2.3 - 5.4)	4.9 (4.3 - 5.3)	4.5 (1.3 - 5.7)	4.5 (1.3 – 5.7)
>75,000 copies/mL, %	17	50	28	28
CD4 count, median (range), cells/µL	172 (16 - 827)	85 (6 - 237)	195 (3 - 1296)	150 (3 - 1296)
≤200 cells/µL, %	67	92	53	64
Years since HIV diagnosis, median (range)	27 (13 - 39)	26 (14 - 35)	23 (9 - 44)	24 (9 - 44)
Number of prior ARV agents, median (range)	9 (2 - 24)	9 (3 - 22)	13 (3 - 25)	11 (2 – 25)
Number of ARV agents in failing regimen, median (range)	3 (1 – 7)	3 (2 - 6)	4 (2 - 7)	3 (1 – 7)
Known resistance to ≥2 drugs in class, %				
NRTI	96	100	100	99
NNRTI	92	100	100	97
PI	83	67	83	81
INSTI	83	58	64	69

## **CAPELLA: LEN in People with Drug Resistant HIV**

Virologic efficacy at week 26 in the randomized cohort (n=36)



Molina JM et al, IAS 2021, Abstract OALX01LB02



• New drug application filed with US FDA for treatment of heavily treatment experienced people with multi-drug resistant HIV

 Studies to be done in treatment-naïve and experienced patients in combination with other long-acting agents (islatravir, broadly neutralizing antibodies, others)

• Phase 3 studies of lenacapavir for pre-exposure prophylaxis initiated

## **HIV Cure Research**





#### Intact Proviruses Decline Over Time on ART Whereas Defective Proviruses Do Not



Peluso M/Deeks S et al, JCI Insight 2020; Antar AA/Siliciano RF et al, JCI, 2020; Gandhi RT/Mellors JW et al, JID, 2021

### **Intact Proviruses: Quality and Location Matter**

- Elite controllers more likely than ART suppressed patients to have intact proviruses integrated into quiescent regions of genome ("gene deserts") --> is this the basis for ARTfree control?
- Two exceptional elite controllers: no detectable intact proviruses or virus outgrowth
  - California and Esperanza (Hope) patients
  - Natural cures?
- Can one achieve ART-free remission by inducing a more quiescent reservoir?



# HIV that rebounds during treatment interruption is highly interferon resistant

Example:



- Compared interferon sensitivity of HIV obtained from pre-treatment interruption quantitative virus outgrowth assay to HIV isolate during ART treatment interruption
- Rebound isolates highly resistant to type 1 interferon

# HIV that rebounds during treatment interruption is highly interferon resistant



Interferon resistance

Gondim MV et al, Science Translational Medicine, 2021; Hahn B, IAS 2021

# HIV that rebounds during treatment interruption is highly interferon resistant



Interferon resistance

- Rebound virus more interferon resistant than virus obtained from pre-treatment interruption viral outgrowth assays
- Possible explanations:
  - "Rebound competent" reservoir may consist of interferon resistant viruses
  - ART interruption and HIV rebound may stimulate an innate interferon response that selects for interferon resistant virus

## COVID-19

- COVID-19 Outcomes in People with HIV
- COVID-19 Vaccines in People with HIV

### HIV Associated with Worse COVID-19 Outcomes: WHO Analysis

- Clinical data from 268,412
   hospitalized patients in 24 countries
   (most data were from South Africa)
- 15,522 people with HIV
  - 92% on ART (no information on VL, CD4)
- HIV associated with increased risk of severe/critical COVID (aOR 1.13) after adjusting for age, sex, underlying conditions
- HIV associated with increased risk of in-hospital mortality (aOR 1.3)

HIV and Risk of In-hospital Mortality



<sup>1</sup> Adjusted hazard ratio for HIV infection as a significant independent risk factor for in-hospital mortality of COVID-19, after adjusting for age, sex, disease severity and burden of underlying conditions.

<sup>2</sup> Adjusted hazard ratio for each risk factor for in-hospital mortality among PLHIV, after controlling for the other risk factors in the model.

#### Bertagnolio S., IAS 2021, Abstract PEBLB20

### **Unsuppressed HIV RNA Associated with Worse COVID-19 Outcomes**

- Cohort study of PWH (n=13,142)
  - 82% VL undetectable
  - 8% VL detectable, 10% VL missing
- 749 PWH tested positive for SARS CoV-2
  - 103 hospitalized, 13 deaths
- Severe outcomes more frequent among those with detectable HIV RNA
- Limitation: very few participants with unsuppressed HIV RNA



#### Survival probability

## Potential Reasons Why PWH May Have Worse COVID-19 Outcomes

- Immunodeficiency or immune dysregulation
  - Patients with immunodeficiency, such as organ transplant recipients, are at increased risk for severe COVID-19
  - Prolonged SARS CoV-2 replication reported in immunocompromised hosts
  - Suggests PWH with low CD4 cell counts may be at increased risk for severe COVID (as they are for influenza)
  - Residual inflammation in PWH on ART
    - Most pronounced in PWH with low CD4 cell count nadirs, incomplete CD4 cell reconstitution, low CD4/CD8 ratio
    - Immune dysregulation "legacy effect": impact on COVID-19 not certain

- Comorbidities
  - PWH have high rates of comorbidities that are also risk factors for severe COVID-19
- Social determinants of health
  - PWH more likely to be racial/ethnic minorities, poor – risk factors for worse COVID-19 outcomes

Triant V and Gandhi R, JID 2021

## People with HIV (PWH) in FDA authorized COVID-19 vaccine Phase 3 Clinical Trials

- Participants with stable HIV:
  - Moderna: 176
  - Pfizer: 196
  - J & J: 1218

• No immunogenicity data reported yet

## Immune Responses to AstraZeneca COVID-19 Vaccine in people with or without HIV

- PWH (n=54)
  - On ART with viral suppression
  - Median CD4 694
- People without HIV (n=50)
- Antibody and T cell responses comparable between people with and without HIV
- Similar results in study of 104 PWH and 70 people without HIV in South Africa after AZ vaccine



# Antibody response to two-dose SARS-CoV-2 messenger RNA vaccination in persons with HIV

- PWH (n=14)
  - 14/14 on ART for > 6 months
  - 13/14 had undetectable HIV RNA
  - 2 (14%) had CD4 cell count <200
- 5 received Pfizer vaccine, 9 received Moderna vaccine
- Variable antibody titers after 1<sup>st</sup> dose
- All participants developed high titers of antibodies after 2<sup>nd</sup> dose



### Antibody responses after Pfizer Vaccine in People With and Without HIV

- PWH (n=12)
  - All on ART
  - Median CD4: 913 (range 649-1678)
- Healthy donors (HD, n=17)
- Similar levels of anti-SARS-CoV-2 spike binding antibodies and T cell responses in both groups after 2<sup>nd</sup> dose



## Failure to Seroconvert after COVID-19 Vaccine in a Patient with Uncontrolled HIV

- Patient with uncontrolled HIV who was not on ART
- Received 2 doses of Pfizer vaccine
- About 2 weeks after the 2<sup>nd</sup> vaccine dose, the CD4 cell count was 20, HIV RNA >800,000; started on ART
- About 6 weeks after 2<sup>nd</sup> vaccine dose (4 weeks after starting ART), HIV RNA
   <50, CD4 cell count 70</li>





## Summary

- Additional evidence for DTG/3TC in maintenance therapy
- Lenacapavir submitted to FDA for treatment of highly treatment experienced patients with MDR HIV; will be studied with other long-acting agents for treatment-naïve and – experienced patients; need more information on its barrier to resistance
- HIV cure research advances: quality (not just quantity) of reservoir is important
- COVID-19 outcomes appear to be worse in people with HIV, particularly if not virologically suppressed.
- People with HIV who are on ART appear to have similar immune responses to COVID vaccines as people without HIV
  - People who are not on ART and who have a CD4 cell count <200 may not mount as good an immune response; should they receive a 3<sup>rd</sup> vaccine dose after starting ART?