

Differentiated service delivery for chronic disease

The fundamentals



**Monthly visits to
collect ART**

**3 hour trip to clinic:
Cost of transport**

**Long queues at the
clinic**

**Leaving family and
activities at home**

Since 2008.... As a response to access challenges and the progressive scale up of ART

Effectiveness of Patient Adherence Groups as a Model of Care for Stable Patients on Antiretroviral Therapy in Khayelitsha, Cape Town, South Africa *Fernandes et al PloS One 2013*

97% of club patients remained in care compared to 85% of other patients. Club participation reduced loss to care by 57% (HR 0.43 95% CI 0.21-0.91)

South Africa National Roll Out aiming for 100,000 clubs by next year



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Community ART Support Groups in Mozambique: The Potential of Patients as Partners in Care

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**Response to lack of multi-month refills:
IMPORTANT often discussed as a barrier to DSD for other chronic diseases**

Differentiated service delivery: Consensus definition

Differentiated Service delivery :

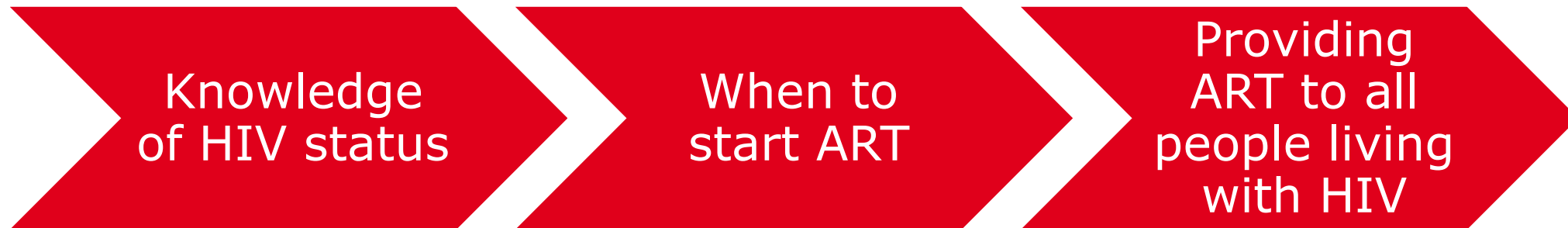
is a **client-centred** approach that simplifies and adapts HIV services **across the cascade** to reflect the preferences and expectations of groups of people living with HIV (PLHIV) while **reducing unnecessary burdens on the health system**.

Differentiated service delivery: Consensus definition

Differentiated Service delivery :

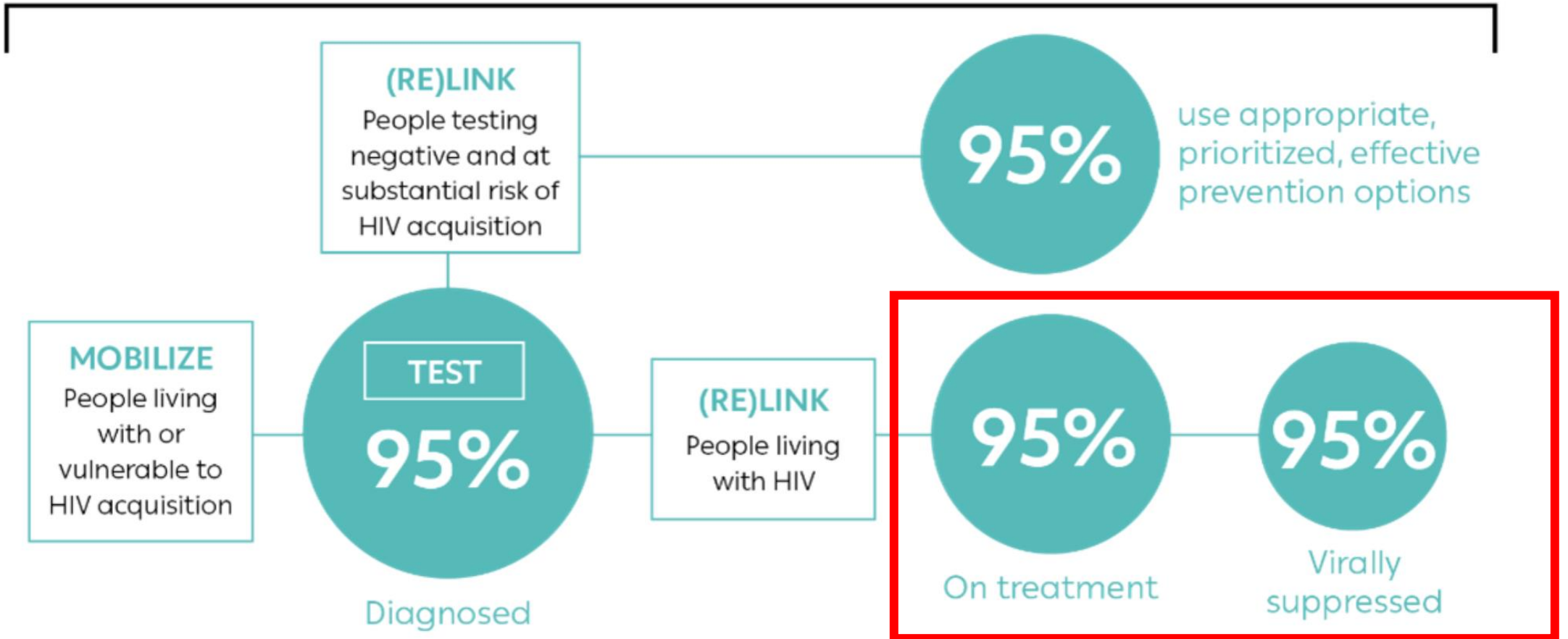
is a **client-centred** approach that simplifies and adapts **chronic disease** services **across the cascade** to reflect the preferences and expectations of groups of people living with **chronic diseases** while **reducing unnecessary burdens on the health system**.

Evolution in HIV programming



How are we going to double the treatment cohort with the same resources?

Differentiated service delivery



What were the key enablers for DSD for HIV treatment

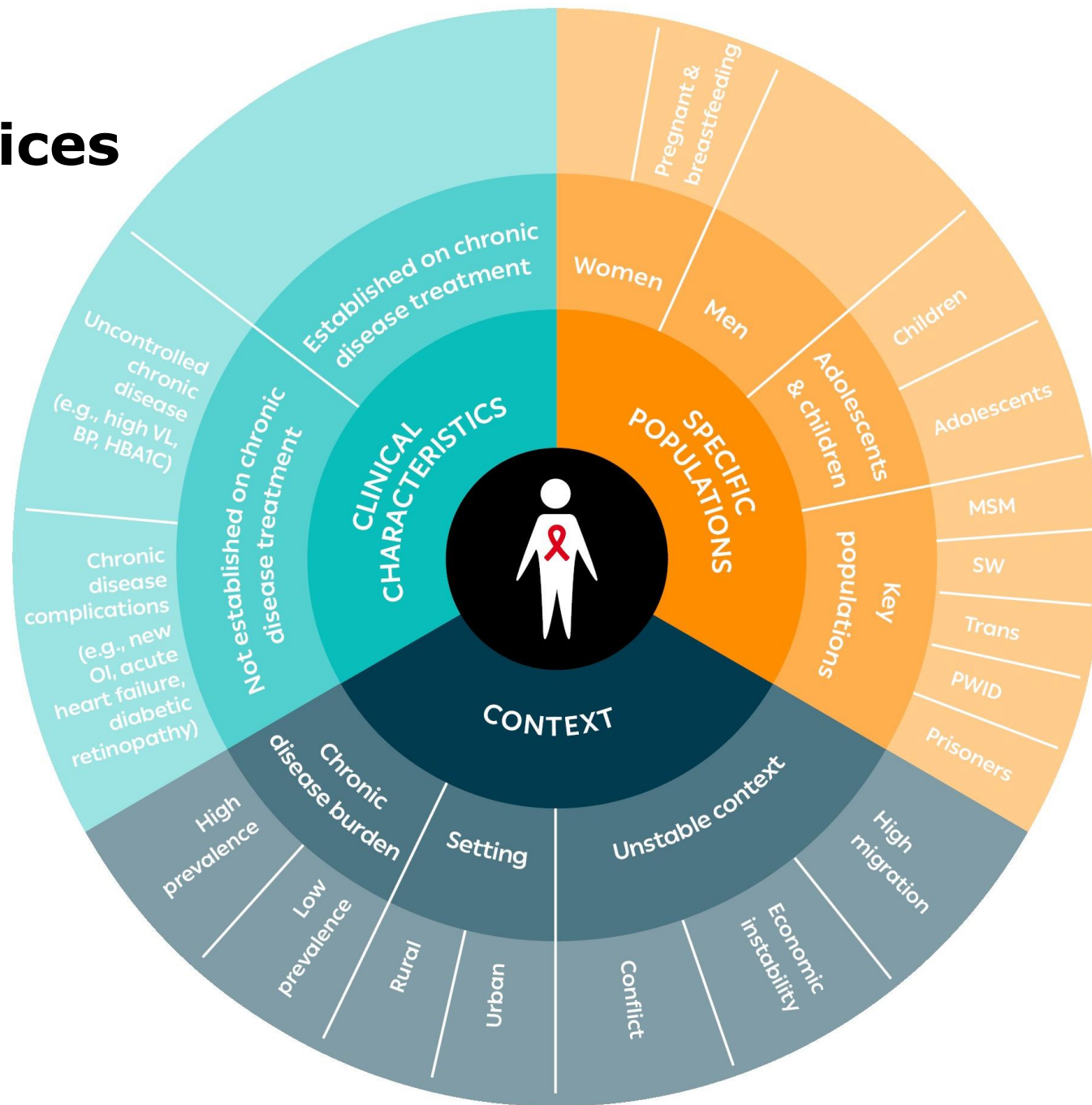
- Non-toxic regimen
- Simplified clinical guidance
 - one regimen across populations
- Fixed dose combinations supporting adherence and simplifying supply chain
- Clinical monitoring
 - started with CD4 and VL simplified
- Cohort monitoring
 - to demonstrate impact on retention and control



Who are we providing services for?

The three elements

- **Clinical characteristics**
- **Specific populations**
- **Context**



2010

- On ART for 5 years
- Clinically well
- Still was asked to come every month to the clinic



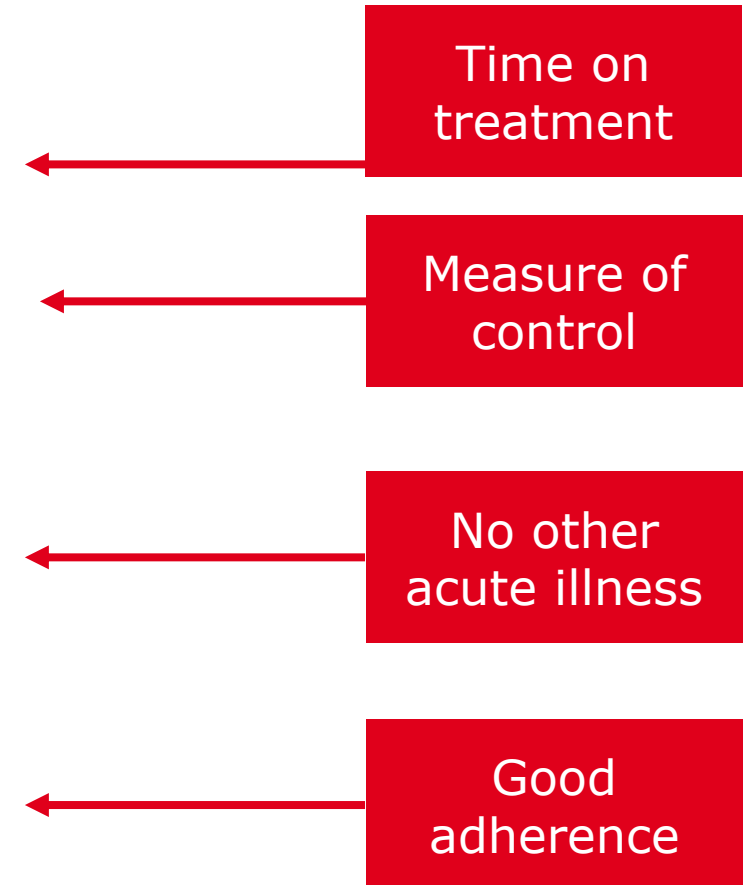
How are clients defined as established on treatment?

Criteria for established on treatment	HIV (WHO 2021)
Time on treatment	Receiving ART for at least six months
Other current illness	no current illness, which does not include well-controlled chronic health conditions
Evidence of treatment success	at least one suppressed viral load result within the past six months (if viral load is not available: CD4 count >200 cells/mm ³ or CD4 count >350 for children 3-5 years or weight gain, absence of symptoms and concurrent infections)
Adherence	good understanding of lifelong adherence: adequate adherence counselling provided

How are clients defined as established on treatment: Nigeria hypertension guideline example

The following criteria can be used to identify a 'stable' patient:

- Must have been on anti-hypertensive treatment for at least six months.
- Must be on current medication combination for at least three months.
- Have their BP under control – BP < 140/90mmHg at the last two consecutive visits/measured on two occasions at least one month apart.
- Patients must generally be well, without acute illness/co-morbidity requiring intensive follow-up.
- Absence of any adverse drug reaction (ADR) and side effect that requires constant monitoring.
- A good understanding of life-long treatment and adherence.



IAS How are clients defined as established on treatment- Zimbabwe example

	HIV	HTN	T2DM
Criteria for established on treatment	<p>A RoC (adult, child over two years, adolescent, pregnant or breastfeeding woman, or member of a key population) established on ART (any treatment line) is defined as someone who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has no current OIs • Has good understanding of lifelong adherence • Is at least six months on their current regimen • Has a VL of <50 copies/ml in the past six months 	<p>Not described in EDLIZ</p> <p>OSDM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 140/90 measured on two occasions at least one month apart • At least three months on current regimen • No other uncontrolled co-morbidities requiring more frequent clinical interventions • Good understanding of lifelong adherence: adequate adherence counselling provided 	<p>Not described in EDLIZ</p> <p>OSDM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HbA1C <7% recorded in the last 3 months Or • Fasting blood sugar (FBS) < 7 mmol/L recorded in the last 3 months • At least three months on current oral regimen • No other uncontrolled co-morbidities requiring more frequent clinical interventions • Good understanding of lifelong adherence: adequate adherence counselling provided

Remember- we previously defined “stable” using CD4

- For HIV, viral load is key enabler of DSD
- For hypertension, taking blood pressure available and doable now
- For diabetes, HbA1C could be key enabler of DSD for diabetes

Once established on treatment, what do we do differently?



V



Separate the clinical from the refill visit

IAS

At a refill visit the client does not need to see a clinician



AND – strong treatment literacy of symptoms and signs to attend clinic any time between appointments

Building blocks of DSD

When are services provided

WHEN

Monthly
Every 2 months
Every 3 months
Every 6 months
Every 12 months

Who provides the service

WHO

Physician
Clinical officer
Nurse
Pharmacist
Community health worker
Patient /peer / family

Where are services provided

WHERE

Hospital
Primary care clinic
Other clinic
Community pick-up point
Home
Drop-in centre
Pharmacy

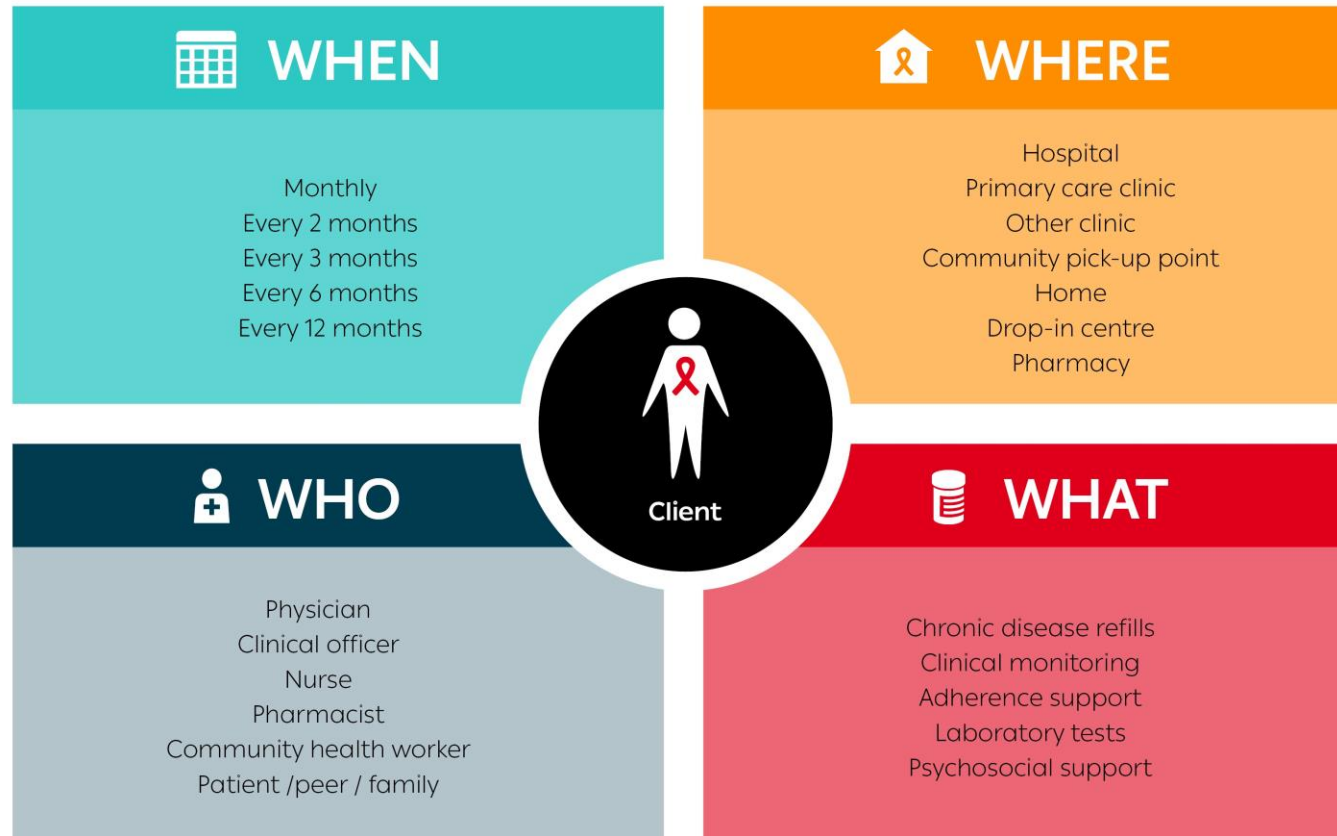
What is the package of services provided

WHAT

Chronic disease refills
Clinical monitoring
Adherence support
Laboratory tests
Psychosocial support







Adapt the building blocks for the clinical visit and for the refill visit



Building blocks - Differentiated service delivery





Before

Clinical visits + ART

 WHEN	Monthly
 WHERE	Clinic or hospital
 WHO	Doctor or nurse
 WHAT	ART Clinical assessment

AFTER

Clinical visits

 WHEN	<i>6-12 monthly</i>
 WHERE	<i>Clinic or hospital</i>
 WHO	<i>Doctor or nurse</i>
 WHAT	<i>ART Clinical assessment</i>

ART refills

	<i>2-6 monthly</i>
	<i>Pharmacy, community pick up point, etc.</i>
	<i>Peer, CHW, etc.</i>
	<i>ART + other meds</i>



V



World Health Organization guidance

For HIV

For Hypertension

7.5.3 Frequency of clinical visits and ART pick-up

Recommendations (2021)

People established on ART should be offered clinical visits every 3–6 months, preferably every six months if feasible^a (*strong recommendation, moderate-certainty evidence*).

^aWhen routine clinical consultations are due, they should be coordinated with planned medicine pick-ups to reduce visit frequency.

People established on ART should be offered refills of ART lasting 3–6 months, preferably six months if feasible^b (*strong recommendation, moderate- to low-certainty evidence*).

^bARV drug supply management should be strengthened to ensure the availability of ARV medicine and prevent stock-outs in the context of less frequent medication pick-ups.

Source: *Updated recommendations on service delivery for the treatment and care of people living with HIV (63)*

7. RECOMMENDATIONS ON FREQUENCY OF ASSESSMENT

WHO suggests a monthly follow up after initiation or a change in antihypertensive medications until patients reach target.

Conditional recommendation, low-certainty evidence

WHO suggests a follow up every 3–6 months for patients whose blood pressure is under control.

Conditional recommendation, low-certainty evidence



“WHEN” IS ART DELIVERED?

	WHEN Clinical visit (established on treatment)	WHEN Refill visit (established on treatment)
HIV	3-6 monthly – preference for 6 monthly	3-6 monthly – preference for 6 monthly
Hypertension	3-6 monthly	
Diabetes		

What if we cannot give more than one month of medication from the pharmacy?



Multi-month prescribing versus multi-month dispensing

- Prescribing – script length, by a qualified prescriber
- Dispensing – amount of drug given, from a qualified dispenser
- Distributing – providing pre-packed dispensed medications, by any one including peers/lay providers

- Separate the clinical visit and the refill visit - and use DSD to facilitate the refill

1/1/16

TDF/3TC/EFV (po) 3/12

CTX 960 mg (po) 3/12

Repeat above prescription on 25/3/16

17/6/16

9/9/16

TCB for clinical review and VL 2/12/16





“WHERE” IS ART PROVIDED?

Move towards out-of-facility
initiation and maintenance

Mentorship/supervision

Supply chain

WHO Guidelines

Box 4: Recommendations on decentralization

Decentralization of HIV treatment and care should be considered as a way to increase access to and improve retention in care:

- Initiation of ART in hospitals with maintenance of ART in peripheral health facilities (strong recommendation, low-quality of evidence);
- Initiation and maintenance of ART in peripheral health facilities (strong recommendation, low-quality of evidence);
- Initiation of ART at peripheral health facilities with maintenance at the community level (that is, outside health facilities in such settings as outreach sites, health posts, home-based services or community-based organizations between regular clinical visits) (strong recommendation, moderate-quality of evidence).



WHO Guidelines

Box 5: Recommendations on task shifting and task sharing

- Trained and supervised lay providers can distribute ART to adults, adolescents and children living with HIV (strong recommendation, low-quality evidence).
- Trained non-physician clinicians, midwives and nurses can initiate first-line ART (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence).
- Trained non-physician clinicians, midwives and nurses can maintain ART (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence).
- Trained and supervised community health workers can dispense ART between regular clinical visits (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence).

8. RECOMMENDATION ON TREATMENT BY NONPHYSICIAN PROFESSIONALS

WHO suggests that pharmacological treatment of hypertension can be provided by nonphysician professionals such as pharmacists and nurses, as long as the following conditions are met: proper training, prescribing authority, specific management protocols and physician oversight.

Conditional recommendation, low-certainty evidence

Four models of DSD for HIV treatment



- Multi-month dispensing is an enabler
- Clinical consultations can be considered separately to ART refills and psychosocial support

Individual model based at facility: e.g. Fast track

	ART refills	Clinical consultation
WHEN	3-monthly	6-monthly
WHERE	Clinic pharmacy	Clinic
WHO	Pharmacist	Nurse
WHAT	ART CTX Other meds	ART refill Viral load Clinical consult

ART refill





- Direct pick up of medication from pharmacy or refill point at clinic
- No clinical consult
- Repeat prescription written at previous clinical consultation

Individual model not based at facility:

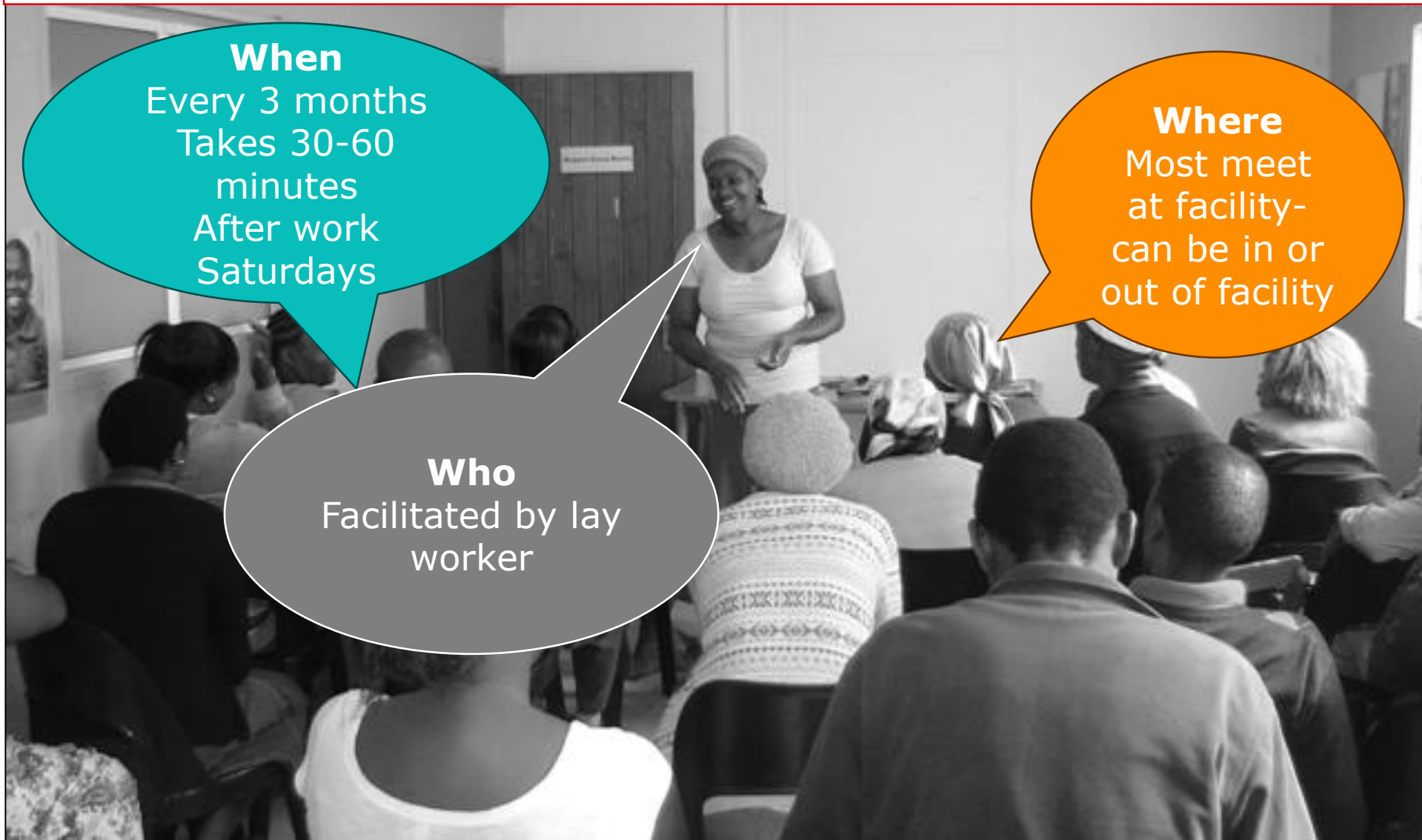
Community pharmacy, Drop in centre, peer or CHW delivery

ART refills

Clinical consultation

 WHEN	3-monthly	6-monthly
 WHERE	Community pharmacy	Clinic
 WHO	CHW	Nurse
 WHAT	ART CTX Other meds	ART refill Viral load Clinical consult

Group Models managed by health-care workers “Adherence Clubs” (15-20 clients)



When
Every 3 months
Takes 30-60
minutes
After work
Saturdays

Where
Most meet
at facility-
can be in or
out of facility

Who
Facilitated by lay
worker

Group model managed by clients



Where
We meet in each other's houses, Generally in rural settings

Who
A client - Our group leader helps us to complete the community refill checks

When
We meet every 3 months

What
Every three months we meet and check we are healthy. One of us then goes to collect all the drugs. Once a year we go for clinical check-up and VL

Self-forming groups (4-12) clinically stable adults, collecting ART for each other

Videos for the four models

DSD for HIV treatment: Facility-based individual model – standard operating procedure

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hMSbadlynDs&list=PLjP62mGJ21IK-7YN7Xh6Z8u_yuibrqNPR&index=20

DSD for HIV treatment: Out-of-facility individual model – standard operating procedure

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EGd9tEn8Trs&list=PLjP62mGJ21IK-7YN7Xh6Z8u_yuibrqNPR&index=19&t=29s

DSD for HIV treatment: Healthcare worker-managed groups – standard operating procedure

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JylXt1_4-94&list=PLjP62mGJ21IK-7YN7Xh6Z8u_yuibrqNPR&index=21

DSD for HIV treatment: Client-managed groups – standard operating procedure

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ZbL61Jktqo&list=PLjP62mGJ21IK-7YN7Xh6Z8u_yuibrqNPR&index=22

Key messages

1. The principles of DSD can be applied to other chronic diseases
2. We need to define:
 - Eligibility for DSD for clients established on treatment
 - Building blocks of "when", "where" and "who"
3. The building blocks are adapted for the clinical visit and refill visit
4. Choose which of the four categories of DSD models for clients established on treatment addresses the health system and client access challenges