

HIV Update Day 2025

Challenges with oral ART	Age (years)	HIV duration	ART resistance	NPPA application	Duration on injectable ART	CD4 count before	Viral loads before	Viral loads after	Other benefits
Difficulty swallowing tablets, gastrointestinal side effects	< 30	> 10 years ago	K103N (NVP, EFV), L90M (ATV)	Initial and first renewal application accepted	10 months	132	4.47, 2.09, 5.05, 3.04, 3.52	1.72. <1.30, 1.41, <1.70, ND, ND	“lifechanging”, “feels a huge relief from the daily burden of taking tablets”
Reminded of events of how HIV infection was acquired	< 30	< 5 years ago	Nil	Initial and first renewal application accepted	8 months	269	<1.30, 4.46, 2.39, 2.66, 4.25	1.72, ND, ND, ND, ND	Much more engaged with care
Swallowing tablets triggers severe anxiety and distress	< 30	> 10 years ago	Nil	Initial and first renewal application accepted	7 months	76	3.54, ND, 3.37, 3.53, 3.64	1.98, 1.39, 1.52, 1.59	Major change from minimal to complete engagement

Further funding (renewals)

In order to qualify for further funding, please provide information to demonstrate that the following renewal criteria are met:

- HIV virological suppression e.g., CD4 count/viral load; and
- Continuing requirement for non-oral ART therapy (including attempts at re-engaging patient to take oral treatment).

Further funding (renewals)

Please note that a renewal application is not expected as the total duration of funding is limited to 52 weeks (26 weeks initially approved, followed by 26 weeks renewal).

Intent of funding treatment for a limited period was to provide treating team necessary supports to re-engage and restart oral treatment.

If further funding is required, we will need to undertake further assessments.

Considerations for injectables administration

August 2025

Storage Fridge

- Pre order from hospital pharmacy fridge
- Should be removed from fridge at least 15 mins prior to admin (room temp)
- Rilpivirine cannot be returned to fridge
- At room temp: vials up to 6 hrs, if in syringe up to 2 hrs

Administration

- All had HIV viral loads >200 copies/mL so 4 weekly dosing until 2 cycles of VL<50 (recommended after 3 - 6 months continuous 4 weekly dosing)
- 2 vials cabotegravir 600mg/rilpivirine 900mg (3mls in each)
- Given slowly IM ventrogluteal or dorso-gluteal left & right sides
- Rilpivirine given right side
- Wait 20 mins first 2 then 10 mins
- BMI >30 consider using 2-inch needle (none available at ACH)
- Ice/cold spray prior, oral analgesia prior to appointment
- Book next visit before they leave the clinic

Reactions

- Rilpivirine (R) more painful becoming less painful with each injection
- Dizziness/fatigue
- Headache

Helpful tips:

- Don't massage following injections
- Don't sit for long periods, no exercise on the day of
- Analgesia
- Stretching
- One person found swimming useful