

HIV/AIDS STANDARD TREATMENT GUIDELINES
1ST EDITION 2004

PUBLISHED BY:

HIV/AIDS Quality of Care Initiative (HAQOCI) in collaboration with The National Drug and Therapeutics Policy Advisory Committee (NDTPAC) and the AIDS and TB Unit - Ministry of Health & Child Welfare Republic of Zimbabwe.

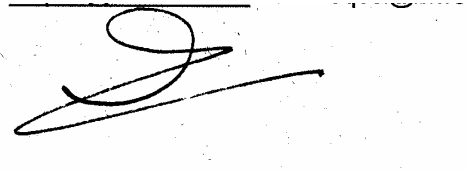
The information presented in these guidelines conforms to current medical nursing and pharmaceutical practice. It is provided in good faith. Whilst every effort was made to ensure that drug doses are correct, no responsibility can be taken for errors and omissions.

PREFACE

This is the first edition of the HAQOCI standard treatment guidelines, which will serve as the national HIV/AIDS care guidelines. The selection of drugs is in accordance to our national drug policy with the essential drug policy concept and the rational use of drugs remaining of paramount importance. The use of the Vital, Essential and Necessary (VEN) classification has been maintained as there is need to prioritise the drugs that we recommend that you use.

The guidelines have been kept simple. They are a tool to help us achieve an improvement in the quality of life of HIV/AIDS infected and affected clients cost-effectively. These national guidelines are complimentary to EDLIZ and hence it is our hope that you will use them as much as you have been using EDLIZ.

Suggestions or comments which may be of assistance in compiling future editions will be appreciated. Comments can be emailed to ndtpac@healthnet.zw or haqoci@mweb.co.zw.



Minister of Health & Child Welfare

DEVELOPMENT PROCESS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The national HAQOCI Stakeholders' meeting to build consensus on HIV/AIDS quality of care improvement was held in February 2002. The need to improve the quality of HIV/ AIDS care through provision of up-to-date, evidence based standard treatment guidelines for health care providers at all levels was highlighted. The meeting noted that there was no minimal package of HIV /AIDS interventions.

The first guideline development workshop occurred at Kadoma in September 2002 when a group on healthcare workers from various parts of Zimbabwe met and agreed on the plan that had been developed by the NDTPAC. The topic leaders for the various topics/conditions to be covered were endorsed. It was agreed to have a guideline development email discussion group whose address was <zimguideline@ yahoogroups.com>. The topic leaders handed in their draft guidelines. The second and final workshop occurred nearly a year later (July 2003) in Harare – where the topic leaders met to finally review their topics after they had been edited and reviewed by Professor Ahmed Latif, Dean at the University of Zimbabwe College of Health Sciences, who had been identified as the overall editor of the book.

The final result was meant to be a document that all healthcare delivery service providers could refer to and use when confronted with an HIV infected individual. The document covers all aspects of HIV/AIDS care and is tailored to what is feasible and practical in our Zimbabwean setting.

The principle of consensus was used in the improvement of the currently available guidelines as well as in the production of new guidelines where they were none available. The method used has produced both research-based and consensus-based recommendations. The core guideline development group involved members of the AIDS and TB Unit – Ministry of Health and Child Welfare, NDTPAC as well as other members identified by the steering committee of HAQOCI. A modified Delphi technique was used. The members of the working groups included people working at A (central and provincial hospitals), B (district hospitals) and C (rural health centres) levels as per EDLIZ style.

The AIDS & TB Unit – Ministry of Health and Child Welfare, HAQOCI Steering Committee and the NDTPAC would like to acknowledge all the people who contributed in one way or another to produce this book and, in particular, the following:

Professor Ahmed S Latif – Overall Editor
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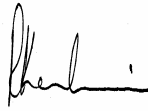
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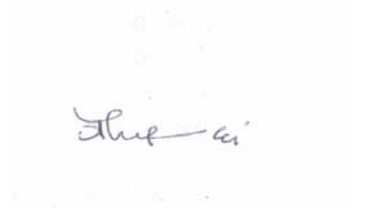
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Thank you all!



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CONTENTS

Preface	2
Development process and acknowledgements	3
1. Prevention and Care of HIV Infection	10
2. Psychosocial Care and Support	15
3. Nutritional guidelines	27
4. Testing for HIV infection	35
5. Antiretroviral Therapy	40
6. Preventing Opportunistic Infections	69
7. Post-Exposure Prophylaxis	71
8. Fungal Opportunistic Infections	75
9. Bacterial Opportunistic Infections	84
10. Protozoan and Parasitic Opportunistic Infections	94
11. Viral Opportunistic Infections	100
12. Sexually Transmitted Infections	104
13. Ocular Manifestations of HIV Infection	151
14. Gastrointestinal Manifestations of HIV Infection	158
15. Neurologic Manifestations of HIV Infection	167
16. Neuropsychiatric manifestations of HIV infection	180
17. Home based care	188
18. Palliative care	200
19. Oral manifestations of HIV infection	210
20. HIV-related malignancies	219
21. Skin manifestations of HIV infection	233
22. ENT conditions	259
23. Women with HIV/AIDS	269
24. Prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV	274
25. Paediatric HIV infection	279
26. Haematologic Disorders	298
27. Cardiomyopathy	303
28. Nephropathy	306
29. Discharge planning guidelines	311
Appendix 1 – Rapid cotrimoxazole desensitization	319
Appendix 2 – Laboratory diagnosis	321
Appendix 3 – Preparation of therapeutic products needed	327
Appendix 4 – Antiretroviral drugs doses	335
INDEX	340

