



BRITISH COLUMBIA  
CENTRE *for* EXCELLENCE  
*in* HIV/AIDS

St. Paul's Hospital  
613-1081 Burrard Street  
Vancouver, BC  
Canada V6Z 1Y6

Tel 604.806.8477  
Fax 604.806.8464  
www.cfenet.ubc.ca

January 21, 2020

Dear Healthcare Provider:

**RE: Updated BC-CfE Reference Documents Available for Use**

The following updated BC-CfE reference documents regarding use of antiretroviral medication in adults are now available for your use (found at <http://cfenet.ubc.ca/therapeutic-guidelines>):

**Therapeutic Guidelines for Antiretroviral Treatment of Adult HIV Infection, and Scientific Review and Recommendations for the Therapeutic Guidelines (December 2019)** (found at <http://cfenet.ubc.ca/therapeutic-guidelines/guidelines-antiretroviral-arv-treatment-adult-hiv-infection>)

**Guideline for Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) Regimens for Initial Therapy and for Switching ART in Virologically Stable Suppressed Adults**

This section lists regular BC-CfE Drug Treatment Program formulary options for initial ART in adults with HIV infection as of Fall 2019, taking into consideration the BC-CfE Committee for Drug Evaluation and Therapy's (CDET) scientific review and recommendations as well as cost considerations. In the event where ART regimen switch is being considered in virologically suppressed individuals with no known resistance mutations or intolerance to specific agents, these ART options should also be considered. Prescribers requesting alternative ART are expected to provide justification and appropriate supportive documentation with the prescription request. Consistent with Pharmacare practices the BC-CfE encourages the use of generics, including voluntary de-simplification of ART regimens, where appropriate.

- Document also found at <http://cfenet.ubc.ca/drug-treatment-program/drug-treatment-program-communications>.
- A complete list of BC-CfE Drug Formulary medications can be found at <http://www.cfenet.ubc.ca/publications/centre-documents/hivaids-drugs-available-through-bc-cfe>.

**BC-CfE Eligibility Criteria for Emtricitabine-Tenofovir Alafenamide (FTC/TAF; Descovy®)**

Summarizes updated clinical criteria for BC-CfE Drug Treatment Program eligibility for FTC/TAF 200-25mg and FTC/TAF 200-10mg tablets. Justification and supportive documentation should accompany the HIV Drug Treatment Program Prescription Request Form for FTC/TAF.

- Document also found at: <http://cfenet.ubc.ca/drug-treatment-program/drug-treatment-program-communications>.

**Scientific Review and Recommendations for the Therapeutic Guidelines**

Summarizes the CDET’s review of the available evidence and scientific recommendations regarding the use of antiretroviral therapy (ART) in adults with HIV-1 infection. Topics include:

- When to start
- What to start with (*For BC-CfE formulary options, please refer to Guideline for ART Regimens for Initial Therapy and for Switching ART in Virologically Stable Suppressed Adults*)
- Assessment and monitoring
- Changing antiretroviral therapy
- Adverse drug reactions of antiretroviral therapy

**Guidance for the Use of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for the Prevention of HIV Acquisition in British Columbia (August 2019)**

This guidance document includes several revisions intended to update PrEP clinical practice guidelines and to clarify specific points in care (e.g. review of the evidence for on-demand use of PrEP, recommendations on renal monitoring). Document found at <http://cfenet.ubc.ca/hiv-pre-exposure-prophylaxis-prep>.

**BC-CfE Drug Treatment Program Information and Prescription Request Forms can be found at <http://www.cfenet.ubc.ca/drug-treatment-program>.**

Sincerely,



Val Montessori, MD, FRCPC  
Co-Chair, Committee for Drug Evaluation and Therapy  
BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS



Julio S.G. Montaner, OC, OBC, MD  
Executive Director and Physician-in-Chief  
BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS