When to start ART in HIV-positive patients

**Eligible to start ART**

- CD4 count < 350 cells/µL
- WHO stage 4
- Excessive alcohol use
- TST positive
- Start ART in patients with HBV co-infection, irrespective of CD4 count
- History of adverse reactions to isoniazid
- History of rifampicin-based regimen

**Require Fast-Track**

- CD4 count > 350 cells/µL
- WHO stage 3 or 4
- Patients who completed MDR- or XDR-TB treatment
- Patients already on ART, including:
  - programmatic and pro tease inhibitors
  - programmatic and DR-TBs
  - NRTI plus NNRTI
  - NNRTI plus ritonavir-boosted PI
  - lamivudine (3TC)

**When to start ART in HIV-positive patients**

**Regimens**

1st line

- Adult CD4: > 350 cells/µL
- TDF + FTC (or 3TC) + EFV
  - Preferred
  - TDF + FTC (or 3TC) + NVP

2nd line

- Patients with concomitant TB
  - TDF and FTC are part of the 2015 guidelines
  - FX at 40 weeks

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Monitoring pre-ART

- **Baseline Tests**
  - CD4 count
  - WHO staging

- **Interpretation/Action**
  - CD4 count < 350 cells/µL
  - WHO stage 4
  - Excessive alcohol use
  - TST positive

- **Screen for HBV (DNA)**
  - IF CRAG negative: Start ART
  - IF CRAG positive: Start treatment

**Before starting ART**

- **Regimen Change: CD4 count and CRAG**
  - To assess viral load before ART is started
  - To assess viral load in patients who have been on antiretroviral therapy

- **Start ART in patients with HBV co-infection, irrespective of CD4 count**

Monitoring on ART

**Test**

- **CD4**
  - At 6 months, 12 and then annually

- **Fasting total cholesterol**
  - At 6 months, 12 and then annually

- **Neutrophils**
  - At 6 months, 12 and then annually

- **Liver function tests**
  - At 6 months, 12 and then annually

- **Monitoring post-ART**

**Isoniazid preventive therapy (IPT)**

- **Eligibility criteria**
  - HIV-infected adults
  - WHO stage 3 or 4
  - TB vaccine-negative

- **Dose of IPT**
  - 3 times/week

- **Duration of IPT**
  - 6 to 12 months

**Management of treatment interruptions and defaults**

- **Establish reason for default or treatment interruption**
  - In all cases
  - In all cases

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**Drug Name**

- **Adult Dosage**
  - **Dose adjustment in renal impairment**
  - **eGFR between 10 and 50 mL/min**
  - **eGFR < 10 mL/min**