

Treatment: Drug Resistance

Findings suggest that switching to Dolutegravir/lamivudine could be a cost-saving approach, especially in lower-income countries.

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Switching from another antiretroviral regimen to dolutegravir plus lamivudine is a feasible option even for people who experienced prior treatment failure and have drug-resistance mutations. Dolutegravir/lamivudine (DTG/3TC, the components of the Dovato combination pill) is approved as a switch option for people with an undetectable viral load, no prior virological treatment failures and no known mutations associated with resistance to either drug—which means a majority of treatment-experienced people don’t qualify. The SOLAR-3D trial enrolled 100 virally suppressed people with prior virological failure, half of whom had prior or current M184V/I resistance mutations. DTG/3TC was highly effective for people with or without these mutations. Three years after switching to DTC/3TC, there were no cases of confirmed virological failure among those with M184V/I mutations, and no cases of new treatment-emergent resistance were observed. These findings suggest that switching to DTG/3TC could be a cost-saving approach, especially in lower-income countries.

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