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## Upcoming CME Meetings:

#### **CAPE TOWN**

30 August 15h00 to 16h30 Topic: Current STI developments and challenges among key populations of men Speaker: Dr Kevin Rebe

## PRETORIA

03 September 18h30 to 20h00 Topic: Polygamy & HIV: A Complicated Affair Speaker: Dr Edna Rudolph

## SA HIV CLINICIANS SOCIETY NEWSLETTER August 2013

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# Society statement on WHO guidelines

In late June, the WHO issued <u>new quidelines</u> recommending a threshold of 500 cells/ul for the initiation of antiretroviral therapy (ART) in asymptomatic, non-pregnant adults. At this time there are no new data to support changing our own <u>quideline</u>; therefore the Society's recommendation for initiation of ART in this population remains 350 cells/ul. We recognise that the differing recommendations may cause confusion, and have issued a <u>statement</u> to clinicians to help provide clarity.

What do you think the CD4 threshold should be? Let us know - complete our short poll online:



Draft regulations on research on

The Society provided comments on the Department

of Health's draft regulations to the National Health

regulations cover non-therapeutic research with

minors and will impact HIV-and TB-related social

organisations, expresses concerns with the draft

regulations, including the requirement for all minors

to have parental consent to participate in research.

submission; we will keep members informed of any

To date, we have not received a response to our

science research in South Africa. The Society's

submission, co-signed by individuals and

Act on "Research on Human Subjects". The

human subjects

# 2013 Child and Adolescent ARV Dosing Chart

HERN AFRICA

CLINICIANS 50

HIV

The 2013 edition of the <u>Child and Adolescent ARV</u> <u>Dosing Chart</u> is now available. The chart has been updated to include two newly registered drugs, both available on <u>tender</u>: 60mg ABC dispersible tablets and ABC (60mg) + 3TC (300mg) tablets.

The NDOH has also published a <u>paediatric ART</u> <u>flow chart</u> that is a useful reminder of the steps in the management of HIV-exposed children.

If you have questions about the two charts or any paediatric/adolescent HIV/TB-related queries, please contact us at <u>child\_adolescent@sahivsoc.org</u>.

## Stop Stock Outs Project

The Stop Stock Outs Project (SSP), a consortium including the Treatment Action Campaign, the Rural Health Advocacy Project, SECTION 27, Médecines Sans Frontières, the Rural Doctors' Association of Southern Africa and the Society, has launched a new website to support stock out monitoring and reporting. The website allows users to report stock outs, see where stock outs are reported across the country and when these reports are resolved. SSP is targeting 01 October to launch a patientfocussed stock out reporting and monitoring initiative in two districts in South Africa. Health care workers from across the country can continue to report stock outs to us, and/or sign up to be a sentinel reporter. We are working with the NDOH to identify the two districts for the pilot and to refine the current list of medicines to report.

If you experience a medicines stock out, please submit the stock out reporting form or email the NDOH at <u>stockalert@health.gov.za</u> and cc us at <u>stockouts@sahivsoc.org</u>.

View the submission on our website.

further developments.

## National Health Complaints Protocol, Public Sector

The National Department of Health's Quality

## **TB** publications

Dr Grant Theron, a Wellcome Trust Fellow in Public Health and Tropical Medicine based in the Lung Infection and Immunity Unit, Department of Medicine, University of Cape Town, coordinates an email list highlighting new TB articles in the literature. New TB publications are selected based

#### **JOHA NNESBURG**

10 September 18h30 to 20h00 Topic: Management of druginduced liver injury Speaker: Dr Colin Menezes

#### POLOKWANE

21 September 12h30 to 16h30 Topic: Ethical dilemmas in HIV Speaker: TBC

For more information about our CME meetings, please contact Natalie Martyn at

or visit our <u>website.</u>



Assurance Directorate recently updated the <u>National</u> <u>Health Complaints Management Protocol for the</u> <u>Public Sector, South Africa</u>, which outlines the process for reporting complaints.

Please note that complaints must first be lodged at a facility, and if the facility is unable to resolve the complaint, the complaint should then be reported to the provincial office. If both the facility and provincial office are unable to resolve the complaint to the user's satisfaction, the complaint can then be lodged with the national office. Please see Annexure B, Section A of the protocol document for an example of a complaint form.

#### Resources

The Aurum Institute has revised its TB guide, <u>Managing TB in a New Era of Diagnostics</u>.

Johns Hopkins School of Nursing is offering a <u>free</u>, <u>online TB Care and Management course with a</u> <u>focus on TB/HIV Co-infection</u>. The course is designed for health care workers or health professional students to prepare them to plan and deliver TB care in their communities by applying the latest clinical and research data to their setting. on their prominence and relevance to TB care in high burden settings. There is an emphasis on diagnostics and drug-resistant TB. Most selected studies are clinical or translational in nature, however, important basic science findings are often frequently included. The list is subjective and not meant to be exhaustive. It is usually sent out fortnightly, depending on the quality and volume of work published to date.

If you would like to receive these emails, please send us an email at <u>sahivsoc@sahivsoc.org</u> and we will add you to the list.



### Society conference

Please visit the <u>website</u> for the Society's conference, set to take place 24-27 September 2014 at the Cape Town ICC. Prof Francois Venter is conference chair, and planning is already underway for a cutting edge, scientifically- and clinically-relevant meeting that will help improve your practice. Registration opens this November.



## **Society Blog**

The Society is pleased to announce the launch of a blog, which features commentary on the latest news in HIV/TB and voices from the field. We want to hear from you! Blog entries are informal and should average around 500 words. If you are interested in contributing, please contact Suzanne Nicholson (sueznicholson@gmail.com) for more information. Visit the blog today and let us know what you think!



## **Upcoming conferences**

#### <u>7th Annual Workshop on Advanced Clinical Care</u> (AWACC)

The 7th AWACC is scheduled for 26 and 27 September 2013 at the Elangeni hotel in Durban. Visit the <u>website</u> to view the programme and to register.

#### FIDSAA 2013

The 5th Federation of Infectious Diseases Societies of Southern Africa Conference, themed "Changing Attitudes", will be held at the Champagne Sports Resort in the Drakensberg, on the 10th – 12 October 2013. Visit http://www.fidssa.co.za/default.asp for more

ntp://www.fidssa.co.za/default.asp for more information.

## **Recent News and Publications**

Foreign patients denied health care services in Gauteng

CHER finds infants who start ART early are able to interrupt treatment later on, with no evidence of excess disease progression

Study in Brazil finds IPT reduced deaths and active TB cases by 31%

FDA approves Dolutegravir, an integrase inhibitor

Report on the First International Symposium on Self-Testing for HIV: The legal, ethical, gender, human rights and public health implications of HIV self-testing scale up

Patents and profits: A disparity of manufacturing margins in the tenofovir value chain

Mental Health and the Global Agenda

The 2013 TAG and HIV i-base Pipeline Report

## **Contact Details for the Southern African HIV Clinicians Society:**

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Have news you'd like to share? Email us at <a href="mailto:sahivsoc@sahivsoc.org">sahivsoc@sahivsoc.org</a>

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