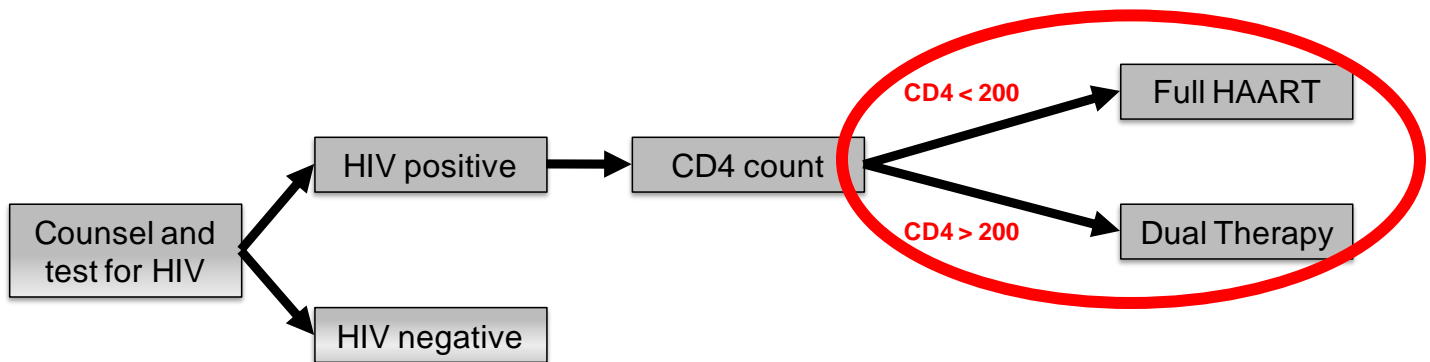


Checklist 2A: Reliable Patient Follow-up for HIV-Positive Mothers

Problem: Many mothers have an HIV test and a CD4 test at their first antenatal visit, but they do not come back for results. Without the CD4 result, they do not get AZT at 28 weeks if CD4 is greater than 200, nor do they get HAART if CD4 is less than 200. Conducting the CD4 test but not informing the client of the results is a waste of staff resources.



Aim: All mothers who have a CD4 test receive their test result, and HIV-positive mothers are triaged to appropriate HIV prophylaxis [AZT at 28 weeks or HAART] (goal > 95%).

Change Idea: Audit the CD4 register at the end of every month and contact all mothers who did not get results. Depending on the CD4 result, refer the client to the appropriate location for AZT or HAART.

Change Idea Checklist:

- An additional column may need to be added in the CD4 register indicating if the client has received her CD4 test result or not.
- At the end of each month, the sister collecting the data must make note of all of the clients who have not received their CD4 test results.
- The antenatal clinic (ANC) team should contact clients who have not received their CD4 test results to return to the clinic to get their results. Contact may be done by telephone, SMS, and home visits by the staff, local leaders, and community health workers.
- When the client returns to the clinic, she should be started on AZT if more than 28 weeks pregnant and CD4 greater than 200, or started on AZT **and** referred for HAART if CD4 < 200.
- Measure whether this change is successful (goal: 95% of mothers receive their CD4 result)
 - Number of CD4 tests taken _____
 - Number of mothers who receive their results _____

How to Introduce This Change Idea to Your Clinic and Sustain Your Success:

Checklist of tasks to be completed before testing this change idea:

- Discuss this idea (hold a meeting) to get buy-in from the ANC and PMTCT staff, including matrons and/or nurses and counselors.
- Ensure that the CD4 register includes a column to indicate if clients have received their CD4 test results. If not, either add a new column or split an existing column into two by drawing a vertical line through the CD4 result column.
- Choose a specific day to audit the CD4 register.
 - Date _____
- Choose a specific day or days to contact clients who have not received results.
 - Date _____
- Identify staff who are interested in introducing this change to participate in the pilot.
 - Staff member(s) _____

Checklist of tasks to be completed after the pilot testing day:

- The facility manager, antenatal sister, and counselor should meet at the end of the pilot testing period to review the results, assess how the test went, and adapt the change as necessary.
- The goal is that 95% of HIV-positive mothers receive their CD4 test result.
- Was your test to implement this change successful? Why or why not? What adjustments can you make to achieve success? If you need to make adjustments, make a new plan for the next month and test out the new plan at the very next opportunity. Meet after the test day is complete to review results, assess how the test went, and adapt the change as necessary. Continue this process until the system is working smoothly.
- Once the change has been reliably tested and is achieving the desired outcomes, it can be made part of the routine care of patients. Implement this protocol for all new patients at every antenatal clinic.
- Share your results with other primary health care clinics.