

# Department of Veterans Affairs

# Memorandum

Date: August 11, 1997

From: Acting Associate Chief Consultant, PBM SHG (119D)

Subj: Discontinuation of 12/96 PBM-MAP Guideline Pharmacologic Management of HIV/AIDS: Antiretroviral Therapy and Endorsement of HIV/AIDS TAG Information Letters on the Treatment of Opportunistic Infections in AIDS and the Revised Recommendations for Use of Viral Load Assays and Antiretroviral Therapy of HIV/AIDS

To: VISN P&T Committee Chairs

1. Recommendations concerning the principles on the care of the HIV infected patient and guidelines for the pharmacologic therapy are evolving swiftly. On June 19, 1997, the Federal Register published the Report of the NIH Panel to Define Therapy of HIV Infection and the HHS Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in HIV Infected Adults and Adolescents. On June 25<sup>th</sup>, the International AIDS Society/USA published its updated 1997 recommendation on antiretroviral therapy of HIV infection replacing the recommendations of just the year previously (JAMA 277:1962-1969,1997).
2. The VHA HIV/AIDS Technical Advisory Group has updated its recommendations for the antiretroviral therapy of HIV/AIDS. That information letter is in the administrative approval process.
3. The use of the PBM-MAP guideline on the antiretroviral therapy of HIV infected patients dated December 1996 should be discontinued. In its place, the PBM-MAP endorses the recommendations contained in the HIV/AIDS TAG Information Letter (Revised Recommendations for the Use of Viral Load Assays and Antiretroviral Therapy for Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infections and Acquired Immune Deficiency Patients), which is now pending administrative approval.
4. The PBM-MAP also endorses the HIV/AIDS TAG Under Secretary for Health's Information Letter dated March 24, 1997 on Recommendations for Prevention and Treatment of Opportunistic Infections in HIV and AIDS Patients.

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Panel

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