



Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in Pediatric HIV Infection

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Conclusion (Last updated August 11, 2011; last reviewed November 1, 2012)

The care of HIV-infected children is complex and evolving rapidly as results of new research are reported and new antiretroviral (ARV) drugs and newer classes of drugs are approved. Clinical trials to define appropriate drug dosing and toxicity in children ranging in age from infancy to adolescence are critical as new drugs become available. As additional ARV drugs become approved and optimal use of these drugs in children becomes better understood, the Panel will modify these guidelines. It should be noted that guidelines are only a starting point for medical decision making and are not meant to supersede the judgment of clinicians experienced in the care of HIV-infected children. Because of the complexity of caring for HIV-infected children, health care providers with limited experience in the care of these patients should consult with a pediatric HIV specialist.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the HIV Medicine Association (HIVMA) of the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA), the Pediatric Infectious Disease Society (PIDS), and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) jointly developed and published guidelines for the prevention and treatment of opportunistic infections in HIV-exposed and -infected children; these guidelines are available at <http://aidsinfo.nih.gov>.¹ Similar guidelines for adults are also available at the same website.²

References

1. Mofenson LM, Brady MT, Danner SP, et al. Guidelines for the Prevention and Treatment of Opportunistic Infections among HIV-exposed and HIV-infected children: recommendations from CDC, the National Institutes of Health, the HIV Medicine Association of the Infectious Diseases Society of America, the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society, and the American Academy of Pediatrics. *MMWR Recomm Rep*. Sep 4 2009;58(RR-11):1-166. Available at <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19730409>.
2. Kaplan JE, Benson C, Holmes KH, et al. Guidelines for prevention and treatment of opportunistic infections in HIV-infected adults and adolescents: recommendations from CDC, the National Institutes of Health, and the HIV Medicine Association of the Infectious Diseases Society of America. *MMWR Recomm Rep*. Apr 10 2009;58(RR-4):1-207; quiz CE201-204. Available at <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19357635>.