

## Oral Communications

### From naive to highly treated subjects. Efficacy of cART

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**Title: Determinants of switching to TAF-based cART or dual combinations (DT) from TDF-based regimens in a cohort of HIV-infected individuals with controlled viral load  $\leq 50$  copies/mL**

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#### Abstract body

**Background:** Switching to a TAF-based or to TDF-sparing (dual therapy, DT) regimens is safer than continuing to take TDF-containing regimens, particularly for bone/kidney health. The impact of new guidelines on ARV prescriptions and the determinants of switching to TAF-based vs. DT regimens have not been thoroughly investigated.

**Material and methods:** The analysis includes data from HIV-positive patients enrolled in the Icona Foundation Study cohort, with a stable VL  $\leq 50$  copies/mL while on a TDF-based triple cART after January 1st 2016 (baseline). We investigated the probability of switching from TDF to DT or TAF-based combination antiretroviral therapy (cART). Comorbidities (diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidemia) were defined as: i) glucose  $>126$  mg/dl; ii) reported information and/or use of blood pressure lowering drugs; iii) fasting total cholesterol  $>200$  mg/dl, LDL  $>100$  mg/dl, HDL  $<40$  mg/dl for females or  $<50$  mg/dl for males, triglycerides  $>150$  mg/dl. Standard survival analysis of time to switch by means of Kaplan-Meier (KM) curves were used. Separate models were used for the endpoints of switching to DT or TAF-based cART. Cox regression models were used to identify independent predictors of time to switch towards each of the two strategies. A sensitivity analysis was also performed after exclusion of EVG/c. A competing risk KM analysis was also conducted to jointly model the two type of switches.

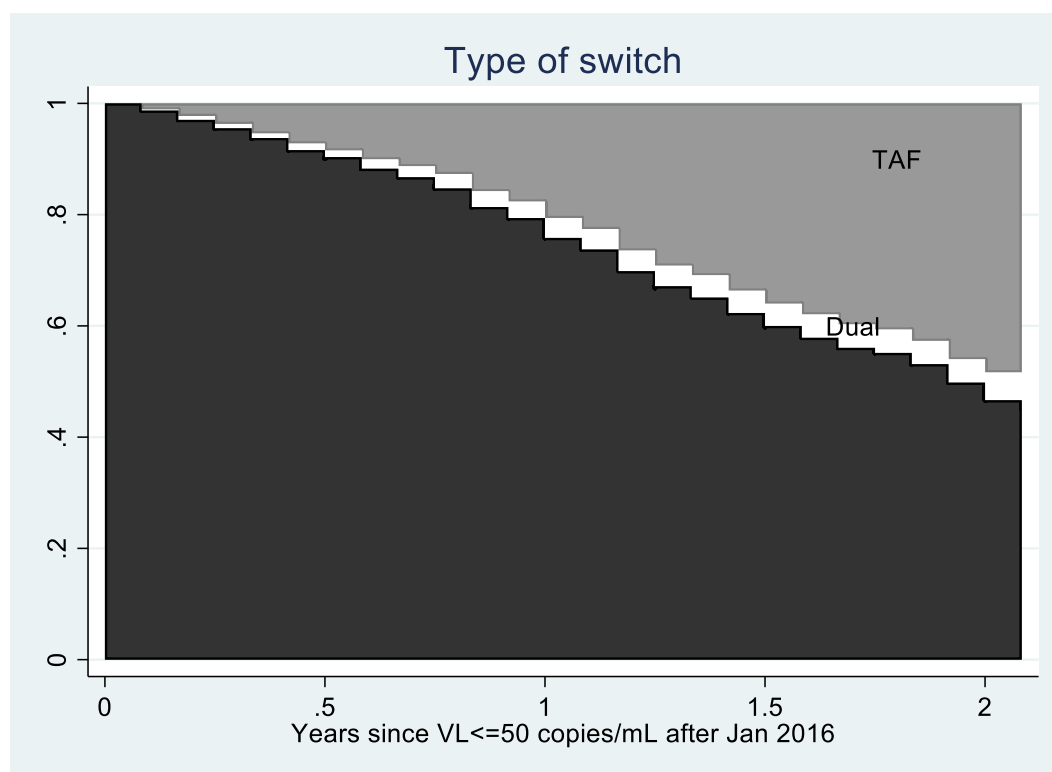
**Results:** A total of 1,420 participants were included, 21% female, with a median (IQR) age of 36 (30-42) years, CD4 count 522 (314-750) cells/mm<sup>3</sup> (14% with  $< 200$  cells/mm<sup>3</sup>), CKD-EPI eGFR 99.1 (85.8-111.1) mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>, total cholesterol 166 (142-192) mg/dL, 86% acquired HIV through unprotected sex, 33% of patients were of foreign origin, 6.5% had hepatitis B or C coinfection, 12% had been diagnosed with AIDS before baseline. At baseline, the most commonly used anchor drugs besides FTC were RPV (27%), EVG (26%), DTG (20%) and DRV/r (13%). In the joint competing risk approach to analysis, by 2 years from baseline, the probability of switch to DT was 3.5% (95% CI 2.3-4.6) and 21% (95% CI 18.8-23.7) to TAF-based cART (Figure 1). A significant higher probability of switch to TAF-based regimen was found for those receiving INSTI at baseline (KM estimates: 50.2%; 95%CI 46%, 55% by 2 years, log-rank  $p<.0001$ ), not confirmed after excluding people using EVG, in which a higher probability of switch was found for NNRTI ( $p<.0001$ ).

For the DT endpoint, a higher probability of switch to PI/b (9.6%; 95%CI 5%, 14%,  $p<0.001$ ) was found. Table 1 shows factors independently associated with the probability of switching stratified by switch

type.

**Conclusions:** The use of PI/b regimen at baseline was associated with a higher risk of switching, regardless of the strategy. A baseline eGFR<60 predicted to switch to 2DC but not to TAF-based regimens. Switches towards TAF-based regimens appeared to be more frequent in more recent years, and significantly correlates also to currently receiving a INSTI regimen.

**Figure 1 Kaplan Meier plot of competing therapy initiation**



**Table 1. Relative hazards of switching with sustained suppression on TDF-based regimens with VL≤50 copies/mL after 2016 by switch type (TAF-based cART vs. DT) from fitting two separate Cox regression models**

	Adjusted*RH (95% CI) TAF cART	p-value	Adjusted* RH (95% CI) DT cART	p-value
<b>Baseline eGFR, ml/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup></b>				
60+	1.00		1.00	
0-59	0.80 (0.39, 1.66)	0.555	4.86 (1.53, 15.48)	<b>0.007</b>
<b>Calendar year of VL≤50 per more recent</b>	1.61 (1.28, 2.02)	<b>&lt;.001</b>	0.61 (0.27, 1.35)	0.225
<b>Anchor drug</b>				
NNRTI	1.00		1.00	
INSTI	17.68 (9.61, 32.50)	<b>&lt;.001</b>	1.56 (0.55, 4.42)	0.399
PI/r	8.57 (4.37, 16.79)	<b>&lt;.001</b>	7.33 (2.51, 21.43)	<b>&lt;.001</b>

<sup>&</sup>diabetes, dyslipidemia and hypertension

\*Adjusted for:gender, mode of HIV transmission, AIDS diagnosis, HCV co-infection, age, nationality, CD4 count at baseline, total cholesterol at baseline, use of blood pressure lowering drugs, comorbidities, number of ART drugs previously virologically failed, anchor drug of regimen at baseline (INSTI- vs PI/b-vs NNRTI) which all failed to be independently associated with any of the studied endpoints.