

SPECIAL POPULATIONS

- Treatment of a stigmatized and complex medical disorder with associated poor health outcomes is challenging in the best of circumstances.
- The additional challenges of incarceration, poverty, food and housing instability, and substance use and mental health disorders can further complicate adherence and requires specialized interventions.

Special Populations

Population	Recommendations
Pregnant Women	<p>Targeted PMTCT treatment (including HIV testing and serostatus awareness) improves adherence to ART for PMTCT and is recommended compared with an untargeted approach (treatment without HIV testing) in high-HIV-prevalence settings (III B).</p> <p>Labor ward–based PMTCT adherence services are recommended for women who are not receiving ART before labor (II B).</p>
Children and Adolescents	<p>Intensive youth-focused case management is recommended for adolescents and young adults living with HIV to improve entry into and retention in care (IV B).</p> <p>Pediatric- and adolescent-focused therapeutic support interventions using problem-solving approaches and addressing psychosocial context are recommended (III B).</p> <p>Pill-swallowing training is recommended and may be particularly helpful for younger patients (IV B).</p> <p>DAART improves short-term treatment outcomes and may be considered in pediatric and adolescent patients (IV C).</p>

Special Populations

Population	Recommendations
Substance Use	<p>Offering buprenorphine or methadone to opioid-dependent patients is recommended (II A).</p> <p>DAART is recommended for individuals with substance use disorders (I B).</p> <p>Integration of DAART into methadone maintenance treatment for opioid-dependent patients is recommended (II B).</p>
Mental Health	<p>Screening, management, and treatment for depression and other mental illnesses in combination with adherence counseling are recommended (II A).</p>
Incarceration	<p>DAART is recommended during incarceration (III B) and may be considered upon release to the community (II C).</p>
Homeless and Marginally Housed Individuals	<p>Case management is recommended to mitigate multiple adherence barriers in the homeless (III B).</p> <p>Pillbox organizers are recommended for persons who are homeless (II A).</p>

See citations in Thompson et al. 2012 Ann Intern Med

Pregnant Women

- Targeted PMTCT treatment (including HIV testing and serostatus awareness) improves adherence to ART for PMTCT and is recommended compared with an untargeted approach (treatment without HIV testing) in high-HIV-prevalence settings (III B).
- Labor ward–based PMTCT adherence services are recommended for women who are not receiving ART before labor (II B).

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Recommendations for Future Research

- ART adherence barriers both antenatal and postpartum
- ART adherence strategies both antenatal and postpartum

Children and Adolescents

- Intensive youth-focused case management is recommended for adolescents and young adults living with HIV to improve entry into and retention in care (IV B).
- Pediatric- and adolescent-focused therapeutic support interventions using problem-solving approaches and addressing psychosocial context are recommended (III B).
- Pill-swallowing training is recommended and may be particularly helpful for younger patients (IV B).
- DAART improves short-term treatment outcomes and may be considered in pediatric and adolescent patients (IV C).

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Recommendations for Future Research

- Adherence predictors for perinatally infected and behaviorally infected youth
- Linkage and retention strategies for youth, especially transition from pediatric to adult care
- Effect of HIV disclosure on ART adherence and care retention
- Medication formulations, pill burden, and administration methods
- Reasons why adolescents and young adults are less likely to receive prescriptions for ART than their older counterparts
- Environmental adherence barriers
- Mobile technology and social networking adherence interventions

Mental Health

- Screening, management, and treatment for depression and other mental illnesses in combination with adherence counseling are recommended (II A).
See citations in Thompson et al. 2012 Ann Intern Med

Recommendations for Future Research

- **Mental health disorders** other than depression, and the effects of **traumatic and stressful events** in relationship to ART adherence
- Research on mental health disorders in relationship to ART adherence from locations **outside the US**
- Systematic mental health screening in relation to ART initiation or adherence
- Specific **mechanisms** through which depression may influence ART adherence and treatment outcomes
- Expand evidence base on mental health disorders and symptoms in relation to HIV care engagement and retention

Substance Use Disorders

- Offering buprenorphine or methadone to opioid-dependent patients is recommended (II A).
- DAART is recommended for individuals with substance use disorders (I B).
- Integration of DAART into methadone maintenance treatment for opioid-dependent patients is recommended (II B).

See citations in Thompson et al. 2012 Ann Intern Med

Recommendations for Future Research: SUD

- Interventions for ART-naive patients with substance use disorders
- Creation of transitional models that sustain the long-term benefit of effective interventions
- Evaluation of the effectiveness, feasibility, and cost-effectiveness of comanaging HIV and opioid replacement treatment
- Evaluation of the efficacy of educational counseling, adherence case management, timer and reminder interventions, and peer-driven and family-support interventions that have shown promising results in pilot studies
- Exploration of long-term home-visit nursing interventions with peer support

Incarceration

- DAART is recommended during incarceration (III B) and may be considered upon release to the community (II C).

See citations in Thompson et al. 2012 Ann Intern Med

Recommendations for Future Research

- ART distribution and adherence strategies in low- and middle-income countries
- Other strategies compared to DAART in correctional facilities
- Optimal length of DAART after release from a correctional facility
- Cost analyses of ART adherence interventions
- Case-management interventions for post-release ART and care linkage
- Effect of opiate replacement therapy on ART adherence during and after incarceration

Homeless and Marginally Housed Individuals

- Case management is recommended to mitigate multiple adherence barriers in the homeless (III B).
- Pillbox organizers are recommended for persons who are homeless (II A).

See citations in Thompson et al. 2012 Ann Intern Med

Recommendations for Future Research

- Strategies to assess adherence and detect lapses to better tailor support to functional adherence challenges in individual patients
- Studies on the effectiveness of DAART, adherence tools, and case management and medical outreach

Clinical Guidelines

Guidelines for Improving Entry Into and Retention in Care and Antiretroviral Adherence for Persons With HIV: Evidence-Based Recommendations From an International Association of Physicians in AIDS Care Panel

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