Tailoring education to drive behavior change

Mali’s community health practitioners accelerate the transition to TLD in HIV/AIDS care

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The USAID Global Health Supply Chain Program-Procurement and Supply Management (GHSC-PSM) project

...works closely with the national health authorities to accelerate the transition to tenofovir/lamivudine/dolutegravir (TLD), a treatment with proven results in HIV viral load suppression.

• GHSC-PSM helped set up the TLD Transition Committee in 2019 under the leadership of the Executive Secretariat of the High National Council to fight against AIDS (SE-HCNLS), and the Sectorial Unit for the fight against HIV/AIDS, TB and Hepatitis (CSLS-TBH).

• The transition required alignment of national policies, programmatic actions, and fully trained human resources to deliver.

• The committee drew up a transition plan with the support of GHSC-PSM.

• A smooth transition to TLD was made more difficult by COVID-19 restrictions and interrupted training programs for field health practitioners.

• Thus, rapid on-site training missions were conducted by the CSLS-TBH to provide rapid guidance to prescribers and providers.
Introduction to Mali

General indicators:
- Area: 1,241,238 km²
- Population 2021: 21,112,000 (71% under 24 y.o.)
- Administrative regions: 19 functional regions incl. the District of Bamako
  - 156 Circles, 807 communes
  - 12,712 Villages/Fractions/Neighborhoods

Health indicators:
- Regional health directorates
  - 74 health districts with district hospitals (CSREF)
  - 8 regional hospitals (EPH)
  - 5 university hospitals (CHU)
  - 1,700 community health centers (CSCOM)
  - 3000 community health worker sites (ASC sites)
- 105,678 people living with HIV/AIDS in 2022 (EPP Spectrum)
- HIV prevalence: 1.1% (EDSM 2012-2013)
- HIV prevalence among MSM: 13.7% (Survey by Terya CSLS-CDC, 2015)
- HIV prevalence among SW: 8.7% (IBBS, 2019)
- 52,848 adults under ART (DHIS2, June 2022)
- 3,858 children under ART (DHIS2, June 2022)
How We Work

Mali gov and GHSC-PSM work to support health by:

• exploring
• administering
• sustaining

This includes **tailored training** and **supportive actions** to drug prescribers and dispensers across all regions of Mali.
Method

• Consumption data in **OSPSANTE, the Pharmaceutical Management Information Dashboard**, demonstrating TLD uptake in each site informed training needs and subsequent support plans.

• Rapid on-site training missions were jointly conducted by GHSC-PSM and the CSLS-TBH to provide rapid guidance to prescribers and providers

• Three supportive supervision were carried out by GHSC-PSM and the CSLS-TBH
  - 1\textsuperscript{st} supportive supervision: Sep-Oct 2020
  - 2\textsuperscript{nd} supportive supervision: Feb-Mar 2021
  - 3\textsuperscript{rd} supportive supervision: Nov-Dec 2021

• Activities undertaken during the supportive supervision at HIV/AIDS care and treatment sites included:
  - Meeting with prescribers, dispensers, lab technicians, and biologists
  - Orientation on HIV/AIDS treatment with emphasis on transition to TLD, elimination of NVP-based regimen, and implementation of MMD, DDD & PrEP
  - Evaluation of TLD uptake and the implementation of PEPFAR key initiatives such as MMD, DDD & PrEP
• The percentage of patients on TLD increased from 7.3% to 39%, and to 58% following two supportive supervision visits

• The impact of the third supervision on TLD uptake will be assessed during the upcoming supportive supervision scheduled for Nov-Dec 2022
Results – MMD

The percentage of adult patients on MMD (receiving 3+ months of supply) increased from 42% to 73%.

The percentage of pediatric patients on MMD (received 3+ months of supply) decreased from 73% to 56%.
Results – elimination of NVP-based regimen

The percentage of adult and pediatric patients on NVP-based regimen decreased following supportive supervision visits.
## Results – Decentralized Drug Distribution (DDD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>% of sites with a mechanism for community distribution of ARVs (Malian DDD model so far)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bamako</td>
<td>81.3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikasso</td>
<td>93.3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Segou</td>
<td>76.9 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>84.1 %</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

On average, 84 % of PEPFAR-supported sites implement community distribution of ARVs through either NGO psychosocial counselors, or through expert patients.
Results – PrEP Transition

Actual consumption of TDF/FTC 30-count

Impact of the 2nd supportive supervision

Impact of the 3rd supportive supervision
Way Forward

• GHSC-PSM will provide continued support to the Sectoral Unit for the Fight Against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Hepatitis (CSLS-TBH), ensuring adherence to antiretroviral treatment for key target groups.

• The project will assess the impact of the latest supportive supervision on TLD uptake.

• We will support the CSLS-TBH in forecasting and developing the transition plan to the Dolutegravir 10mg dispersible tablet (DTG 10).

• We will continue to work toward the target of 70% of patients on TLD by December 2022.
Lessons Learned

• Training and support activities are core to driving health practitioners’ adherence to change, which in turn is a vital link to the supply chain performance.

• Targeting prescribers’ and dispensers’ specific education needs with tailored training plans has dramatically overturned the resistance to TLD consumption (initially 7.3% to 58%).
Thank you! Questions?

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