Adult Antiretroviral Therapy Optimization and Multi-Month Dispensing Scale-up, Putting Nigeria on Track to Achieve HIV Epidemic Control

**CHALLENGE**

What was the issue?

The 2018 Nigeria HIV/AIDS Indicator and Impact Survey put the national HIV prevalence at 1.4% and the viral load suppression rate at 80%, short of the UNAIDS target of 95%. Optimization of antiretroviral therapy (ART) and multi-month dispensing (MMD) are critical for the country to attain the second and third 95.

**SOLUTION**

What did we do?

2. Government-led transition plan to phase out legacy ART regimens and introduce TLD.
3. Scale up MMD with supply of TLD 90-count bottles.
4. Increased viral load and early infant diagnosis testing to monitor treatment outcomes.

**RESULTS**

What was the outcome?

- ART optimization achieved with 99% (1.89m) of first-line adult patients on TLD.
- 99% (1.88m) of these are on MMD.
- More than 80% on MMD6.
- 97% viral load suppression in patients tested for VL.
- Approx 500,000 bottles of TLD 90-count bottles distributed every two months.
- 2,301 ART healthcare providers from 982 health facilities trained on TLD regimen.

**LESIONS LEARNED**

How has our work evolved?

- Collaborative planning by the government-led HIV quantification team prevented interruption of supply during TLD transition and MMD scale-up.
- Supply of larger 90-count bottles intensified MMD scale-up.
- Country-wide training on the use and benefits of DTG in ART for service providers helped sensitize to ART optimization efforts.

**NEXT STEPS**

Where do we go from here?

Effective supply planning to ensure uninterrupted availability of TLD

Continued MMD6 scale-up for client-centered care will improve treatment outcomes, measured over time by continued viral load testing improvements.

At the current trajectory, Nigeria is on track to achieve HIV epidemic control by 2030 in line with the UNAIDS 95-95-95 target.