

WHO Guidelines on HIV Service Delivery (update)

Biographies of proposed Guideline Development Group members [19 March 2025]

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Baker Bakashaba, Acting Executive Director at AIDS Information Centre-Uganda (AIC-U), Uganda

For fifteen years, Dr Bakashaba has managed HIV/AIDS programs focusing on designing and implementing facility- and community-based, client-centred projects and strengthening health systems in Uganda. He has contributed to the design of community ART models, such as community drug distribution points (CDDP) and community- client-led ART delivery (CCLAD), as well as other national-level differentiated service delivery models as a member of the national DSD Technical Working Group.

As a member of the HIV Coverage, Quality, and Impact Network (CQUIN) Advisory Group, he has enhanced the expansion and improvement of differentiated service (DSD) for people living with HIV in 21 member countries and beyond. He contributed to the 2021 WHO HIV clinical and service delivery recommendations as part of the WHO Guidelines Development Group.

He is currently the Acting Executive Director for AIDS Information Centre and Project lead for the Reaching and Sustaining HIV Epidemic Control in Soroti Region, Uganda– a regional HIV/AIDS project funded by the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). He has previously worked with The AIDS Support Organisation (TASO) Uganda as the Regional Project Manager.

Adele Schwartz Benzaken (MD, PhD), Global Program Medical Director for AIDS Healthcare Foundation/AHF Global, Brazil

Dr Adele Schwartz Benzaken is a distinguished public health expert with extensive experience in HIV, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and global health policy. She currently serves as the Global Program Medical Director for the AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF), where she leads international health services and policy operations. In this role, she collaborates with local governments, program managers, and healthcare providers across 45 countries, focusing on HIV client retention programs and the implementation of STI services to improve global public health outcomes.

Dr Benzaken earned her Degree in Medicine (1978) in Manaus, Amazonas, Brazil, and later obtained a PhD in Public Health (2009) from the National School of Public Health (ENSP), Fiocruz, Rio de Janeiro. She is actively involved in academia, serving as a board member of the International Society for Sexually Transmitted Diseases Research (ISSTD) and contributing to postgraduate programs at the State University of Amazon, the Tropical Medicine Foundation Heitor Vieira Dourado, and Fiocruz Amazonas.

Throughout her career, she has held key leadership roles, including Director of the Department of STI/HIV-AIDS and Viral Hepatitis at Brazil’s Ministry of Health (2016-2019) and Director of Fiocruz Amazonas (2022-2023). She has also served as Vice-Chair of WHO’s Technical Advisory Committee on HIV and Viral Hepatitis (2017-2021) and contributed to international health initiatives through PAHO and UNAIDS.

Dr Benzaken’s expertise spans patient care, academic health institution management, postgraduate supervision, and public health policy development. Her work has been instrumental in advancing HIV and STI program implementation, particularly in strengthening HIV client retention

programs and expanding access to STI prevention and treatment services in diverse healthcare settings worldwide.

Tom Ellman (MChB MRCP MSc (Epid) BSc (Path)), Director of the Southern Africa Medical Unit (SAMU) of Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), South Africa

Tom Ellman is a medical doctor, epidemiologist, and director of the Southern Africa Medical Unit (SAMU) of Médecins sans Frontières Southern Africa (MSF-SA) based in Cape Town. The unit is responsible for medical technical and strategic support, training, and research in MSF HIV, TB, NCD and hepatitis projects globally. Dr Ellman has over 25 years of experience in humanitarian medical work, research, and health advocacy, mostly with Médecins Sans Frontières. He has served on steering committees and panels looking at a wide range of HIV, TB, and NCD related issues. He acts as NCD adviser to OCB, building on experience with models of care for HIV and TB in support of innovative programming to integrate diabetes and NCD care in diverse settings including Kenya, Lebanon, Ukraine, Bangladesh, and South Africa.

Ibtissam Khoudri (PhD), National AIDS Program Manager, Ministry of Health, Morocco

Dr Ibtissam Khoudri is a Dermatologist and specialist in public health. She is the National AIDS Program Manager inside Ministry of Health of Morocco and has over 10 years of experience in HIV Programming. Dr Khoudri is also the coordinator of HIV national response, working closely with institutional departments, NGOs, key populations and people living with HIV. Dr Khoudri has led the implementation and extension of innovative approaches for HIV service delivery in Morocco.

Ana Olga Machatine De Almeida Hausse Mocumbi (MD PHD FESC), Associate Professor of Cardiology, Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, Mozambique

Dr Mocumbi is an Associate Professor of Cardiology at Universidade Eduardo Mondlane in Mozambique, Affiliated Professor at the Department of Global Health at the University of Washington and the Lead Researcher at the Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) Division at the National Public Health Institute Mozambique (Instituto Nacional de Saúde). Her career focuses on neglected cardiovascular diseases, including epidemiological, clinical and health systems research, particularly task-shifting and incorporation of new technologies.

Dr Mocumbi has been leading the implementation NIH-funded health systems' research on integration of hypertension and diabetes care within the HIV platform in Mozambique, including task-shifting to mid-level professionals and community health workers.

Dr Mocumbi has Co-Chaired The Lancet Global Commission on Non-Communicable Diseases and Injuries (NCDI) of the Poorest Billion, and is Co-Chair of the NCDI Poverty Network. Through this role she co-leads the PEN-Plus partnership in delivering an integrated care delivery strategy focused on alleviating the NCD burden among the poorest children and young adults by increasing the accessibility and quality of chronic care services for severe NCDs—such as type 1 diabetes, rheumatic heart disease, and sickle cell disease.

Juan Luis Mosqueda Gómez (MD, MSc), Mexico National AIDS Programme, Mexico

Dr Juan Luis Mosqueda Gómez is a Mexican physician specializing in internal medicine and infectious diseases. He earned his medical degree from the University of Guanajuato and completed his specialties at the National Institute of Medical Sciences and Nutrition "Salvador Zubirán." He also holds a Master's degree in Clinical Research from the University of Guanajuato. He has held key positions, including Director General of the Hospital Regional de Alta Especialidad del Bajío, Technical Secretary of the Guanajuato State Council for the Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS (COGUSIDA), Secretary of Health in Guanajuato, and Director of the Ambulatory Center for the Prevention and Care of AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections (CAPASITS) in León. He is also member of the antiretroviral resistance guidelines committee and member of the HIV committee of the Mexican Association of Infectious Diseases and Clinical Microbiology. In October 2024, Dr Mosqueda Gómez was appointed Director General of the National Center for the Prevention and Control of HIV and AIDS (CENSIDA). He is a member of the National System of Researchers and has contributed to over 30 publications between 2008 and 2023. He also serves on national committees for antiretroviral management and resistance and is a professor at the University of Guanajuato.

Mina Nakawuka (MBChB, MPH), National Program Officer - Adult HIV Care and Treatment, AIDS Control Program, Ministry of Health, Uganda

Dr Mina Nakawuka has over 20 years of expertise in clinical care, strategic management, and public health, with a focus on integrating non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and cervical cancer screening into HIV programs. Since 2018, as Program Officer for HIV Care and Treatment/Coordinator Integration of NCDs into Adult HIV Management at the Ministry of Health AIDS Control Program, she has led the development and implementation of national guidelines to integrate NCDs like hypertension and diabetes into HIV care, improving patient outcomes.

Dr Nakawuka also spearheaded initiatives to introduce cervical cancer screening and management for women living with HIV, broadening access to preventive care and early detection. She ensured the alignment of these efforts with national priorities while building the capacity of healthcare providers to deliver integrated services.

Previously, as Senior Medical Officer and Director of Advocacy at AIDS Healthcare Foundation-Uganda Cares, she championed innovative strategies to enhance health services. Her extensive experience in government projects with Kampala City Authority and the Ministry of Health highlights her expertise in policy formulation, program implementation, and advocacy. Her contributions have set a benchmark for sustainable, integrated health models, significantly advancing HIV care and public health in Uganda.

Nittaya Phanuphak (MD, PhD), Executive Director at the Institute of HIV Research and Innovation (IHRI), Thailand

Dr Nittaya Phanuphak is the Executive Director at the Institute of HIV Research and Innovation in Bangkok, Thailand. She has deep interest in the establishment and sustainability of the Key Population-Led Health Services (KPLHS) which empower key population lay providers who are

members of key population communities to design and co-deliver sexual health to their peers based on the principles of de-medicalization, simplification, and differentiation. KPLHS has been established in Thailand through mutual partnership between community-led organizations and government/public health facilities since 2015. Technology-based interventions, mental health, rights, and other harm reduction services have been gradually and successfully integrated as part of the KPLHS model. She currently works towards the establishment of national accreditation and domestic financing systems for lay providers to ensure KPLHS sustainability.

She provides ongoing research support to various implementation science and clinical trial studies. She has served as Chair, Co-Chair and member of several WHO Guidelines Development Groups and WHO Strategic and Technical Advisory Group on HIV, viral hepatitis, and STIs. She is also the International AIDS Society (IAS) Governing Council Representative of Asia and the Pacific Islands, the Deputy Editor of the Journal of International AIDS Society (JIAS), and the Associate Editor of Sexual Health.

Jeremy Ross (MBBS, MSc), Director of Research at TREAT Asia/amfAR – The Foundation for AIDS Research, Thailand

Dr Jeremy Ross, Director of Research at amfAR's TREAT Asia program in Bangkok, Thailand, co-leads an Asia regional clinical epidemiological and mixed-methods research program focused on HIV clinical outcomes, comorbidities and co-infections. Dr Ross trained in medicine at King's College School of Medicine, London, and has a master's degree in health policy, Planning and Financing from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and London School of Economics. Dr Ross has over 20 years' experience in health service delivery, program management, and research, working with multilateral agencies, international non-governmental and community organizations to design, implement, monitor and evaluate impactful multi-partner health, HIV and development projects and programs, particularly in the Asia-Pacific. This work has included HIV prevention, counselling and testing, care and treatment, strategic information, advocacy, health communications, and capacity development initiatives. His current research interests include associations between mental health disorders, HIV and other health outcomes, implementation research, and the integration of HIV, mental health, and comorbidity screening and care.

Daniel Simões (PhD, MSc), Independent expert, Portugal

Dr Daniel Simões is a licensed psychologist with a Master's in Community Psychology and a PhD in Global Public Health. He is currently focal point assessment analyst at the European Union Drug Agency.

Since 2004, he has been actively engaged in the response to HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis, and sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Since 2011, he collaborated with GAT (Grupo de Ativistas em Tratamentos) in Portugal, contributing to project management and policy advocacy in the field of infectious diseases, and was Strategic Information Manager at Coalition PLUS.

He was co-chair of EuroTEST, a European initiative aimed at enhancing early diagnosis and care for HIV, viral hepatitis, and STIs from 2018 to 2024, and member of the European Testing Week working

group, and of the European Laboratory Initiative (ELI).

Daniel served on multiple technical and advisory groups for the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO), influencing public health policies and service integration efforts across Europe.

Ketevan Stvilia (PhD, MSc), Manager of the Global Fund HIV Program, National Centre for Disease Control and Public Health (NCDC), Georgia

Dr Ketevan Stvilia is a public health expert specializing in HIV, viral hepatitis, and sexually transmitted infections (STIs). She earned her Ph.D. in public health from Tbilisi State Medical University and a Master of Science in health management from New York University (NYU). Currently, Dr Stvilia serves as the Manager of the Global Fund HIV Program at Georgia's National Center for Disease Control and Public Health (NCDC).

In her role at NCDC, Dr Stvilia oversees the implementation of comprehensive HIV prevention strategies, antiretroviral (ARV) treatment programs, and hepatitis screening initiatives. These programs focus on key populations, ensuring access to early detection and care. Under her leadership, Georgia has made significant progress in controlling infectious diseases.

Dr Stvilia collaborates with global health organizations and contributed to the Emory University–Georgia partnership, improving medical education and healthcare practices. She has published research on public health strategies and policy improvements. Her work influences healthcare policy and strengthens Georgia's response to HIV and infectious diseases.

Maureen Syowai (MB ChB), Deputy Director/Technical at the International Center for AIDS Care and Treatment Programs (ICAP) at Columbia University, United States of America

Dr Maureen Syowai Kathuku is a medical practitioner with over 22 years of experience, including 17 years in public health. She holds a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MB ChB) from the University of Nairobi and is pursuing an MSc in Public Health from the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. Currently, she serves as the ICAP CQUIN Deputy Director/Technical, providing technical assistance and thought leadership to The HIV Coverage, Quality & Impact Network (CQUIN) 21-member countries. Her role includes strategic planning, technical support, coordinating CQUIN's communities of practice, and leading the CQUIN Advanced HIV Disease (AHD) community of practice in collaboration with Ministries of Health and partners to promote the uptake of sustainable quality person-centred services. She has extensive experience in HIV and TB program management, developing policies, guidelines, and training materials across various countries, and contributing to the WHO tool for monitoring antiretroviral and antiviral medicine toxicity. She is an expert in scaling up differentiated service delivery (DSD) models and has provided implementation support in Nigeria, South Sudan, Burundi, and Kenya. Additionally, she is experienced in capacity building, managing high-performance teams, and developing monitoring and evaluation tools and systems, including the KenyaEMR antiretroviral toxicity monitoring system.

Francois Venter (MD, FCP, PhD), Executive Director of Wits Ezintsha at the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

Dr Francois Venter did all his training in South Africa, and his work involves health systems research and clinical trials, most recently involving the antiretrovirals dolutegravir, tenofovir alafenamide, cabotegravir, and doravirine. He leads multiple antiretroviral treatment optimisation studies and is currently working on new access programmes through private pharmacies within South Africa, patient linkage-to-care interventions, self-testing projects, as well as most recently on new large-scale primary care delivery platforms addressing hypertension, diabetes, obesity, hyperlipidaemia and HIV. He has led large PEPFAR-funded HIV programmes in South Africa, focusing on men, women, children, young people, truckers, sex workers, and LGBTI communities. For over 20 years he has been an advisor to bodies such as the South African government, UNAIDS, and WHO, contributing to international, regional, and national HIV guidelines.

Mihoko Yotsumoto (MD, PhD), Tokyo Medical University Hospital, Japan

Dr Mihoko Yotsumoto graduated from Shinshu University Medical Course in 1999, specializing in Internal Medicine. Her clinical practice in HIV care began in 2001 at Shinshu University Hospital. During this time, Dr Yotsumoto worked in the Hematology Department and gained experience in AIDS-related malignant lymphoma.

Since 2008, she has been working at Tokyo Medical University Hospital, which, as of 2024, manages care for 1,600 people living with HIV, making it the second-largest HIV treatment center in Tokyo. In 2013, she earned a degree focused on HIV-associated Hodgkin's lymphoma.

Dr Yotsumoto has been responsible for revising Japan's HIV treatment guidelines annually since 2019. Additionally, she has played a key role in collecting evidence and information of the current situation of HIV prevention, treatment, and social circumstances in Japan, contributing to the ongoing revision of the national AIDS prevention guidelines led by the Japanese government.

Zheng Zhu (PhD), Associate Professor at the School of Nursing, Fudan University, China

Dr Zheng Zhu is an Associate Professor at the School of Nursing, Fudan University. He is also an Honorary Professor at Dali University, Southwest Medical University, and the First Affiliated Hospital of Xi'an Jiaotong University. Dr Zhu is a Core Researcher at the Fudan University Evidence-based Nursing Center. He is a JBI Global Collaboration Fellow and a member of the Cochrane China Network. Additionally, he is an Associated Editor for JBI Evidence Synthesis, an Editorial Board Member for Nurse Continuing Education Journal and Chinese Journal of AIDS and STD. Dr Zhu's research focuses on evidence-based nursing and HIV/AIDS symptom management. He has published more than 300 peer-reviewed papers in prestigious journals. Dr Zhu has led and participated in a wide range of research projects. These include projects funded by the National Natural Science Foundation of China, the Humanities and Social Sciences Fund of the Ministry of Education of China, the World Health Organization, etc. The research conducted by his team has been covered by numerous prominent media outlets, including the New York Times, CNN, BBC, U.S. News, China Daily, Daily Mail, South China Morning Post, and the Financial Review.

Methodologist, Roger Chou, Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU), USA¹

Roger Chou is a Professor of Medicine at Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) in the Department of Medical Informatics & Clinical Epidemiology and the Department of Medicine. His clinical background is as an MD trained in internal medicine. He has over 20 years of experience in systematic reviews and guideline development and serves as the Director of the Pacific Northwest Evidence-based Practice Center at OHSU. He has led over 100 systematic reviews for organizations such as the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF), the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Institutes of Health, the World Health Organization, the American College of Physicians (ACP), the American Urological Association, and others.

Professor Chou has served as Coordinating Editor for Cochrane Back and Neck and Senior Editor for Cochrane Musculoskeletal. He has extensive experience in developing clinical practice guidelines, having collaborated with the USPSTF to develop over 30 recommendations on prevention and screening. Additionally, he has served as director of clinical guidelines development for the American Pain Society, as a member of the ACP Clinical Guidelines Committee, and as a steering committee member for the CDC guideline on opioids for pain. He actively develops and advances methods and standards for conducting systematic reviews for the AHRQ Effective Health Care Program, the USPSTF, Cochrane, and other organizations. He was also an author on the recent PRISMA update on reporting standards for systematic reviews.

Professor Chou has previously served as methodologist for numerous WHO guidelines, including those on hepatitis C virus infection, hepatitis B virus infection, medical eligibility criteria for contraceptives, leprosy, physical activity, low birth weight infants, neonatal sepsis, prevention of childhood marriage, and mass distribution of azithromycin to young children, among others. Of particular relevance to this consultancy opportunity, he served as the GRADE methodologist for the updated recommendations on service delivery for the treatment and care of people living with HIV (April 2021) and for the updated guideline on diagnosing, preventing, and managing cryptococcal disease among adults, adolescents, and children living with HIV (June 2022). Additionally, he led systematic reviews on HIV screening (2005, 2012, 2019, and 2024), prenatal screening (2005, 2012, 2019, and 2024), and the use of pre-exposure prophylaxis (2019 and 2023) for the USPSTF, as well as systematic reviews on screening for HCV and HBV and diagnostic testing and imaging for viral hepatitis.

¹ Professor Roger Chou provides methodological support and facilitation of evidence to decision making for the Guideline development process and does not contribute to the formulation of WHO recommendations.