HIV drug resistance mutations in non-B subtypes after prolonged virological failure on NNRTI-based first-line regimens in sub-Saharan Africa

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ABSTRACT

Objective: To determine drug resistance mutation (DRM) patterns in a large cohort of patients failing non-nucleoside-reverse-transcriptase-inhibitor (NNRTI)-based first-line antiretroviral therapy (ART) regimens in programmes without routine viral load (VL) monitoring and to examine inter-subtype differences in DRMs.

Design: Sequences from 787 adults/adolescents who failed an NNRTI-based first-line regimen in 13 clinics in Uganda, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Malawi were analysed. Multivariable logistic regression was used to determine the association between specific DRMs and Stanford intermediate/high-level resistance and factors including REGA subtype, first-line ART drugs, CD4 and VL at failure.

Results: The median first-line treatment duration was 4 years (IQR 30-43 months); 42% of participants had VL ≥100,000 c/ml and 63% had CD4<100cells/mm³. Viral subtype distribution was A1 (40%; Uganda, Kenya), C (31%; Zimbabwe, Malawi) and D (25%; Uganda, Kenya) and recombinant/unclassified (5%). In general, DRMs were more common in subtype-C than in subtypes-A and/or –D (NRTI mutations K65R and Q151M; NNRTI mutations E138A, V106M, Y181C, K101E, H221Y). The presence of tenofovir resistance was similar between subtypes (p(adjusted)=0.32), but resistance to zidovudine, abacavir, etravirine or rilpivirine was more common in subtype-C than D/A (p(adjusted)<0.02).

Conclusions: Non-B subtypes differ in DRMs at first-line failure that impact on residual NRTI and NNRTI susceptibility. In particular, higher rates of etravirine and rilpivirine resistance in subtype-C may limit their potential utility in salvage regimens.
INTRODUCTION

Large databases of HIV drug-resistance mutations (DRMs), invaluable for individual patient clinical decision-making, are largely populated with data from subtype-B viruses, dominant in Europe and North America. The prevalence and pattern of DRMs differ between B and non-B subtypes. Studies comparing different non-B subtypes have typically had small numbers of participants failing first-line therapy, and thus limited power to detect subtype differences, given confounding associated with setting-specific factors, such as first-line regimens and monitoring approaches.¹

More than 15 million people receive antiretroviral therapy (ART) in sub-Saharan Africa, mostly delivered using the WHO public health approach that recommends using two nucleoside-reverse-transcriptase-inhibitor (NRTI) drugs combined with a non-NRTI (NNRTI) drug for first-line treatment and with a protease inhibitor for second-line treatment.² ³ Regular viral load (VL) monitoring is not widely available and treatment failure is consequently detected late, at which time there is extensive resistance.³ Current WHO guidelines recommend selecting the NRTI drugs for second-line therapy using an algorithm based on first-line NRTI drug exposure.³ An understanding of subtype differences in mutational patterns and residual drug susceptibility might allow more refined NRTI selection predictions in areas where a single subtype predominates and might also clarify the role of second-generation NNRTIs in third-line therapy.

We assessed resistance in a large cohort of sub-Saharan African adults/adolescents with first-line treatment failure to determine the impact of viral subtype on mutational patterns and corresponding drug susceptibility.
METHODS

This study included participants failing NNRTI-based first-line therapy enrolled in the EARNEST trial, a large trial testing several PI-based treatment regimens for second-line therapy, and was performed at 13 sites in 4 sub-Saharan African countries (one trial site excluded from this study, see below). In the 3 to 5 years preceding this trial, these sites were delivering ART using the public health approach with standardised first-line ART regimens ( stavudine- and nevirapine-based regimens predominating in earlier years, with increasing use of tenofovir- and efavirenz-based regimens subsequently). At most sites, first-line failure was detected using clinical monitoring, sometimes supplemented with intermittent CD4 monitoring. In the year prior to enrolment, some sites were performing targeted VL testing in suspected treatment failures, but none had implemented regular routine VL testing.

Trial eligibility required participants to have been taking an NNRTI-based first-line regimen for >12 months and to be currently adherent (no more than 3 ART doses missed in the month prior to screening). Failure of first-line ART was defined by clinical, immunological or virological criteria (modified from WHO 2010 guidelines and confirmed by VL>400 c/ml). A baseline plasma sample was obtained prior to switch to second-line ART, stored locally and shipped to a central repository at JCRC, Kampala, Uganda within 12 months of collection.

All 37 participants recruited at one site in Zambia (3% of the total sample size) and 41 (3%) participants from the other 13 sites had no baseline samples stored and were excluded. Three participants not taking standard 2NRTI+NNRTI at failure (2 previously NNRTI-exposed, 1 ineligible) were also excluded. Samples from all remaining participants randomised to protease inhibitor (PI)/NRTI (N=398) and PI/raltegravir (N=393) arms were selected, and 15 samples from those randomised to PI-monotherapy who had received only tenofovir and lamivudine/emtricitabine (with NNRTI) in their first-line regimen were added to increase numbers receiving the current WHO-recommended first-line regimen (total 806 baseline samples assayed). Patient demographics, medical and treatment history (including antiretroviral drugs) were obtained from case records and patient self-report. VL and CD4 count were performed at trial screening (<6 weeks before baseline) using standard methods at local sites.

HIV genotyping was performed using an in-house sequencing method encompassing codons 1-300 of reverse transcriptase at a WHO-designated laboratory (JCRC, Kampala, Uganda). In brief, RNA was extracted using the Qiagen RNA extraction kit and reverse transcribed followed by a nested PCR. The cleaned PCR product was cycle sequenced using the ABI 3730xl. Sequences were edited using the SeqScape version 2.7 and subsequently on Recall as recommended by WHO. Amino acid sequences were compared to consensus subtype B, DRMs defined using the International AIDS Society-USA list, and susceptibility predicted using the Stanford algorithm version 7.0 using the full sequence data available. Subtype was determined by the REGA algorithm version 3.0. Sequences of viral isolates in this study were submitted to GenBank.

Statistical analysis

Multivariable logistic regression was used to determine associations between specific DRMs and two main factors of interest: subtype and ART exposure at first-line failure ( stavudine, tenofovir, zidovudine, or other NRTI for NRTI DRMs; efavirenz or nevirapine for NNRTI DRMs). As well as including these two factors, models adjusted for the following potential confounders: ART drug exposure prior to the regimen they failed on, time on first-line ART, CD4 and log10 VL at failure, and
presence/absence of clinical failure. Exact logistic regression (continuous factors dichotomised at approximate midpoints) was used where logistic regression failed due to small numbers. Similar approaches were used to determine associations between Stanford intermediate/high-level resistance to key drugs and the factors above. Participants with recombinant viruses or where no subtype could be determined were excluded from all models. Models did not adjust for country because national programmes determined the specific NRTIs used in first-line (Table 1); analyses assumed that any relationship between country and DRMs or susceptibility could only be realised through ART received and the other factors above.

All statistical tests presented are two-sided, without adjustment for multiple comparisons. All analyses were done in Stata version 13.1.
RESULTS

Of 806 samples taken between 12 April 2010 and 29 April 2011 and assayed, sequences were obtained in 787 (98%). Forty-two percent of the participants had VL $\geq 100,000$ copies/ml, and 63% had CD4 $<100$ cells/mm$^3$ (Table 1). The predominant viral subtypes were A1 (40%; Uganda/Kenya), C (31%; Zimbabwe/Malawi) and D (25%; Uganda/Kenya) with 5% recombinants not predicted by REGA. Subtypes differed significantly in duration of first-line ART and drugs prescribed: more stavudine/nevirapine use and longer duration on first-line ART with subtype-C and more tenofovir use and substitutions in first-line NRTIs (zidovudine/stavudine to tenofovir) with subtype-A/D infection.

The overall prevalence of major DRMs by subtype is shown in Figure 1 and Supplementary Tables 1a/b. One or more major NRTI or NNRTI DRMs were present in 769 (98%); 3 (0.4%) had only NRTI DRMs, 21 (3%) had only NNRTI DRMs and 745 (95%) had both. Only 18 (2%) participants had no NRTI or NNRTI major DRMs.

Overall DRM prevalence (after adjustment) was broadly similar between subtypes but some significant differences were seen (global $p<0.05$). For NRTI DRMs (Figure 1, supplementary Table 1a), type-2 thymidine analogue (TAM-2) DRMs were more common in A and C than D, K65R and Q151M were more common in C than both A and D (K65R more common in A than D), whereas L210W was less common in C than both A and D. In particular Q151M was seen in 10% of the subtype-C vs <1% of subtype-A/D. For NNRTI DRMs (Figure 1, supplementary Table 1b), (i) E138A, V106M, and Y181C were more common in C than both A and D (ii) K101E was significantly more common in C and D than A, (iii) H221Y was more common in A and C than D (and more common in C than D) (iv) V108I was more common in D than A (v) P225H was less common in C than D (the only DRM significantly less common in C). In particular, V106M occurred in 16% subtype-C compared with 1% A/D, whereas P225H occurred in 2% C vs 7% A and 11% D.

Mutation prevalence by drug exposure is shown in Figure 2 and Supplementary Tables 2a/b. After adjustment, participants on zidovudine at failure were more likely to have T215F,T215Y,M41L,K70R,D67N,L210W,type-1 thymidine analogue (TAM-1),TAM-2 and any TAMS; those on tenofovir to have K65R,K70E,Y115F, and M184I; those on efavirenz to have K103N,P225H,Y188L and L100I, and those on nevirapine to have Y181C and G190A. Intermediate/high-level resistance to tenofovir and lamivudine was predicted in 57% and 95% respectively (Figure 3), and to etravirine and rilpivirine in 55% and 65% respectively. The proportion with resistance to all three NRTIs (zidovudine,abacavir,tenofovir) that might be used with lamivudine/emtricitabine in a second-line regimen was 50% (Table 2), and to all NNRTIs (including second-generation) was 55%. Much of the individual drug resistance was due to cross-resistance rather than previous direct exposure to that drug (Figure 4).

After adjustment, subtype-C was associated with greater abacavir and zidovudine resistance compared to subtypes A and D ($p<0.01$), with prevalence of intermediate/high-level resistance to abacavir and zidovudine of 95% and 86% respectively in subtype-C compared to 84% and 72% respectively in subtype-A, and 81% and 70% respectively in subtype-D. There was no significant impact of subtype on tenofovir resistance (global $p=0.32$) (Table 3). Subtype-C was associated with greater etravirine and rilpivirine resistance compared to subtypes A and D ($p<0.003$) with prevalence of intermediate/high-level resistance to etravirine and rilpivirine of 69% and 80% respectively in...
subtype-C compared to 49% and 63% respectively in subtype-A, and 55% and 61% respectively in subtype-D (percentages adjusted to average over other model factors).

Those on tenofovir at failure had less zidovudine resistance compared to those on zidovudine/stavudine (p<0.01) whereas those on zidovudine appeared to have more tenofovir resistance than those on tenofovir (p=0.06); there was no difference in abacavir resistance in those receiving zidovudine vs tenofovir (p=0.26). Those with first-line nevirapine exposure had more etravirine and rilpivirine resistance (p<0.01). After adjustment, higher VL at failure was strongly associated with greater tenofovir, zidovudine and abacavir resistance (p<0.01), and more weakly with greater etravirine resistance (p=0.04). Lower CD4 count at failure was independently associated with higher risk of resistance to all drugs (p<0.01).
DISCUSSION

We found DRMs conferring resistance to one or more NRTI/NNRTI drugs in 98% of participants failing NNRTI-based first-line ART (resistance to both classes in 95%), similar to smaller studies in Malawi\textsuperscript{10}, Nigeria\textsuperscript{11} and the A5230 study.\textsuperscript{12} Previous studies have shown that patients monitored without VL accumulate DRMs at a rate of 1 new TAM approximately every 15 months (low-income setting) to 4.3 years (high-income setting), and 1 new NNRTI DRM every 1.6 years (high-income setting) with continued drug exposure following virological failure.\textsuperscript{13-15} The high VL/low CD4 in this cohort suggests that participants had protracted virological failure prior to second-line switch, consistent with the fact that they were managed in programmes using immunological and clinical monitoring (without regular VL testing) to detect treatment failure. The very high level of accumulated DRMs in this cohort is therefore not surprising. Conversely, although regular VL monitoring detects failure earlier and may allow the chance for re-suppression (one third after 3 months’ adherence support),\textsuperscript{16} resistance often occurs simultaneously with VL rebound so regular VL testing may not always prevent its development. In a research cohort taking WHO-recommended NNRTI-based first-line regimens with VL tested one year after starting ART, 70% of those with detectable VL had one or more DRMs, with 53% and 60% having 184V and NNRTI DRMs respectively.\textsuperscript{17} Similarly a large South African programme in which VL was tested 6-monthly found 86% of patients had at least one drug-resistance mutation at second-line switch, likely reflecting delays in acting upon viral load results and illustrating programmatic barriers to reducing resistance development.\textsuperscript{18}

This study, the largest to date of resistance in patients failing NNRTI-based first-line therapy in sub-Saharan Africa, makes a substantial contribution to the existing literature on differences in mutational patterns in non-B subtypes. In general, resistance-conferring DRMs were more common in subtype-C than in either or both of subtypes-A and -D. K65R was more common in subtype-C than A or D, supporting previous observations in subtype-C compared to subtype-AE and -B in a global study of patients failing stavudine-containing regimens,\textsuperscript{19} and in comparison to non-C subtypes in an African cohort study (although this effect was not significant after adjustment for drugs).\textsuperscript{17} Differential codon usage has been hypothesised to underlie this difference, and could also contribute to other variations in resistance at failure. Q151M, a rare mutation that confers cross-class NRTI resistance, was present in 11% of subtype-C, but negligible levels in other subtypes (not previously described). Subtype differences in L210W have previously been noted (higher in A than other subtypes in Nigeria).\textsuperscript{20}

We found more inter-subtype differences in NNRTI DRMs, with many being substantially more common in subtype-C than one or both other subtypes. The (almost) exclusive occurrence of V106M in subtype-C has been noted previously.\textsuperscript{17} This mutation confers resistance to efavirenz and nevirapine and was found in 31% of those in a small cohort failing first-line in South Africa.\textsuperscript{21} Another substitution at this position, V106I (not seen in our study) is significantly more common in subtype-G.\textsuperscript{20} Substitutions at position 138 (found in 13% overall) confer resistance to rilpivirine and etravirine and are therefore particularly concerning given that these drugs may be considered for use in third-line therapy.\textsuperscript{7} A Kenyan study reported substitutions at this position in 14% of those failing nevirapine or efavirenz-based first-line, mainly subtype-A;\textsuperscript{22} and a study in Nigeria, mainly subtype G and CRF02_AG, found these substitution in 9%;\textsuperscript{11} our finding that these DRMs are significantly more common in subtype-C (18%) than in other non-B subtypes is novel (a previous study of this mutation...
in several large databases showed a difference in frequency between subtypes C and B, but not between C and non-B subtypes. The H221Y mutation (conferring rilpivirine resistance and with Y181C possibly etravirine resistance) has been noted in patients with non-B subtypes failing first-line nevirapine or efavirenz-based regimens in a predominantly subtype-G and CRF02 Nigerian cohort and subtype-C South African cohort. However, our study is the first to report differences between non-B subtypes for this mutation (more common in subtype-C). To our knowledge, the differences we found in the other NNRTI DRMs, K101E (rilpivirine and etravirine resistance), Y181C (resistance to all NNRTIs), V108I (efavirenz and nevirapine resistance) and P225H (efavirenz resistance) have not been reported previously.

Arising from these DRM differences, viral subtype significantly affected the probability of resistance to drugs that could be used in second or third-line regimens under the public health approach. The much higher zidovudine resistance in subtype-C may be of practical importance given that zidovudine is currently recommended for use in second-line therapy after failure of a tenofovir-based regimen. However, participants were mainly on zidovudine/stavudine first-line and the impact of subtype on zidovudine susceptibility may differ for failure on tenofovir-based first-line regimens (although we adjusted for this). Although we found no significant difference in the proportion with tenofovir resistance between subtypes, only a minority of our participants were taking tenofovir at the time of failure. An analysis of patients failing a tenofovir-based first-line regimen in Western European cohorts showed a higher rate of tenofovir resistance in subtype-C compared to non-C subtypes, although subtype does not appear to affect long-term outcomes on tenofovir-based regimens. The higher rates of etravirine and rilpivirine resistance seen in subtype-C might also be an important consideration in region-specific programme policy (although overall rates are high regardless of subtype, see below). We confirmed the effects of specific first-line NRTIs on resistance to second-line NRTI drugs, which form the basis for the recommendations in the WHO algorithm. We also confirmed the independent association between first-line nevirapine use and etravirine and rilpivirine resistance. Increasing use of efavirenz over nevirapine in first-line therapy may preserve second-generation NNRTIs for potential third-line regimens, but the high rates of resistance seen even in participants failing on efavirenz (40% etravirine, 51% rilpivirine) suggests that these are unlikely to remain sufficiently active to be used in standardised regimens in the public health approach. Furthermore, rates of etravirine and rilpivirine resistance have been shown to increase when tested with deep sequencing. Higher VL and lower CD4 counts independently predicted resistance to all potential second-line NRTI drugs, as previously observed. The marginal associations between VL and etravirine and rilpivirine resistance support this arising quickly after virological failure.

Study strengths are the large sample size, the setting within representative sub-Saharan African programmes following the public health approach, and well-defined first-line failure. Limitations are lack of data on CD4/VL monitoring during first-line ART and the few participants using the currently-recommended tenofovir-based regimen for first-line. There is potential for residual confounding by setting, since viral subtypes are strongly clustered with countries, and countries used different drug regimens (subtype-C virus predominated in Malawi and Zimbabwe, with more stavudine and less tenofovir or zidovudine use at failure; NNRTI use broadly similar). Also the duration of virological failure on first-line ART is unknown, may be only imperfectly adjusted for by CD4 and VL at failure, and first-line monitoring approaches did differ between countries. Nevertheless, our large sample size allowed us to adjust for different regimens and patient characteristics at failure and identify
some strong independent associations between subtype and specific DRMs. The levels of statistical significance seen likely indicate a true effect rather than an artefact of the multiple comparisons performed. Although we did not adjust for these multiple comparisons, this does not affect the magnitude of observed inter-subtype differences but rather requires caution in the interpretation of borderline differences.

Our study provides important information on the prevalence of DRMs in patients failing NNRTI-based first-line ART in these settings, allowing a more robust comparison between viral subtypes than hitherto possible. We found substantial differences between subtypes, with particular disadvantages for subtype-C, but these are likely to have limited impact on the selection of standardised second-line regimens for use in the public health approach.

Sequences have been deposited with GenBank accession numbers KY061369 - KY062155
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Table 1: Characteristics of study population at first line failure

| Characteristic at first line failure | Overall N=787 | Subtype-A N=311 | Subtype-C N=244 | Subtype-D N=194 | Recombinant N=38 | P value |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|
|                                     | n (%)         | n (%)           | n (%)           | n (%)           | n (%)           |         |
| Country n(%)                        |               |                 |                 |                 |                 |         |
| Kenya                               | 33 (4%)       | 20 (6%)         | 3 (1%)          | 7 (4%)          | 3 (8%)          | <0.001  |
| Malawi                              | 69 (9%)       | 0               | 68 (28%)        | 0               | 1 (3%)          |         |
| Uganda                              | 516 (66%)     | 289 (93%)       | 12 (5%)         | 186 (96%)       | 29 (76%)        |         |
| Zimbabwe                            | 169 (21%)     | 2 (1%)          | 161 (66%)       | 1 (1%)          | 5 (13%)         |         |
| Sex n(%)                            |               |                 |                 |                 |                 |         |
| Female                              | 485 (62%)     | 193 (62%)       | 141 (58%)       | 126 (65%)       | 25 (66%)        | 0.44    |
| Male                                | 302 (38%)     | 118 (38%)       | 103 (42%)       | 70 (36%)        | 13 (34%)        |         |
| Age median (IQR)                    | 37 (30-43)    | 36 (30-42)      | 39 (33-45)      | 35 (30-42)      | 34 (29-43)      | <0.001  |
| Years on therapy median (IQR)       |               |                 |                 |                 |                 | 0.02    |
| on first-line therapy               |               |                 |                 |                 |                 |         |
| 2 or more CD4s                       | 549 (70%)     | 284 (91%)       | 71 (29%)        | 163 (84%)       | 31 (82%)        | <0.001  |
| 1 or more VLs                       | 160 (20%)     | 75 (24%)        | 26 (11%)        | 51 (26%)        | 8 (21%)         | <0.001  |
| Drug exposure in first line therapy n(%) |     |                 |                 |                 |                 |         |
| Number of regimens                  |               |                 |                 |                 |                 |         |
| 1                                   | 398 (51%)     | 151 (49%)       | 141 (58%)       | 88 (45%)        | 18 (47%)        |         |
| 2                                   | 324 (41%)     | 129 (41%)       | 89 (36%)        | 91 (47%)        | 15 (39%)        | 0.09    |
| 3+                                  | 65 (8%)       | 31 (10%)        | 14 (6%)         | 15 (8%)         | 5 (13%)         |         |
| NNRTI                                |               |                 |                 |                 |                 |         |
| Number exposed to                   |               |                 |                 |                 |                 |         |
| 1                                   | 660 (84%)     | 270 (87%)       | 194 (80%)       | 166 (86%)       | 30 (79%)        | 0.09    |
| 2                                   | 127 (16%)     | 41 (13%)        | 50 (20%)        | 28 (14%)        | 8 (21%)         |         |
| NNRTI at failure                    |               |                 |                 |                 |                 |         |
| Efavirenz                           | 193 (25%)     | 84 (27%)        | 45 (18%)        | 54 (28%)        | 10 (26%)        | 0.05    |
| Nevirapine                          | 594 (75%)     | 227 (73%)       | 199 (82%)       | 140 (72%)       | 28 (74%)        |         |
| NRTI                                |               |                 |                 |                 |                 |         |
| Number exposed to                   |               |                 |                 |                 |                 |         |
| 2                                   | 467 (59%)     | 173 (56%)       | 174 (70%)       | 100 (52%)       | 24 (63%)        | 0.001   |
| 3                                   | 293 (37%)     | 125 (40%)       | 69 (28%)        | 86 (44%)        | 13 (34%)        |         |
| 4/5                                 | 27 (3%)       | 13 (4%)         | 5 (2%)          | 8 (4%)          | 1 (3%)          |         |
| NRTI at failure                     |               |                 |                 |                 |                 |         |
| Tenofovir                           | 96 (12%)      | 56 (18%)        | 3 (1%)          | 31 (16%)        | 6 (16%)         | <0.001  |
| Stavudine                           | 200 (25%)     | 21 (7%)         | 162 (66%)       | 8 (4%)          | 9 (24%)         |         |
| Zidovudine                          | 486 (62%)     | 233 (75%)       | 76 (31%)        | 154 (79%)       | 23 (61%)        |         |
| None of the above †                 | 5 (1%)        | 1 (0%)          | 3 (1%)          | 1 (1%)          | 0               |         |
| CD4 (cells/mm³) median (IQR)        | 67 (27-136)   | 69 (26-151)     | 66 (25-116)     | 71 (30-140)     | 54 (25-129)     | 0.47    |
| <100 n(%)                           | 495 (63%)     | 191 (61%)       | 161 (66%)       | 119 (61%)       | 24 (63%)        |         |
| Viral load (copies/ml) | median (IQR) | 74,500 | 74,100 | 77,679 | 59,760 | 148,500 | 0.33 |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|------|
|                       |              | (25,400- | (23,906- | (27,591- | (24,135 | (250,864) | (43,542- |
|                       |              | 194,130) | 183,935) | 250,864) | 163,417) | 240,725) |      |
| ≥100,000 n(%)         |              | 334 (42%) | 131 (42%) | 109 (45%) | 72 (37%) | 22 (58%) |     |

* called by REGA as a recombinant or not called by REGA.

** excluding values at ART initiation and within the 90 days preceding switch to second-line (since some additional testing was done as part of trial recruitment initiatives)

† 1 didanosine, 4 abacavir
Table 2: Resistance to potential future NRTI and NNRTI drug options

| Drug                          | Intermediate/ high resistance (N=787) n(%) | High resistance (N=787) n(%) |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| **NRTI**                      |                                           |                             |
| ABC TDF ZDV                   | 392 (50%)                                 | 191 (24%)                   |
| ABC ZDV (not TDF)             | 168 (21%)                                 | 177 (22%)                   |
| ABC TDF (not ZDV)             | 54 (7%)                                   | 51 (6%)                     |
| ABC (not TDF ZDV)             | 32 (4%)                                   | 18 (2%)                     |
| ZDV (not TDF ABC)             | 0                                         | 111 (14%)                   |
| TDF (not ZDV ABC)             | 0                                         | 2                           |
| None of ABC TDF ZDV           | 141 (18%)                                 | 237 (30%)                   |
| **NNRTI**                     |                                           |                             |
| EFV NVP ETR RPV               | 432 (55%)                                 | 83 (11%)                    |
| EFV NVP RPV (not ETR)         | 79 (10%)                                  | 98 (12%)                    |
| NVP ETR RPV (not RPV)         | 0                                         | 19 (2%)                     |
| EFV NVP (not ETR RPV)         | 252 (32%)                                 | 373 (47%)                   |
| NVP RPV (not EFV ETR)         | 2                                         | 6 (1%)                      |
| NVP (not EFV ETR RPV)         | 1                                         | 184 (23%)                   |
| None of EFV NVP ETR RPV       | 21 (3%)                                   | 24 (3%)                     |

ABC=abacavir, TDF=tenofovir, ZDV=zidovudine, EFV=efavirenz, NPV=nevirapine, ETR=etravirine, RPV=rilpivirine
Table 3: Factors predicting intermediate/high level resistance to drugs for potential use in a second-line regimen

| Drug Resistance | Abacavir resistance | Tenofovir resistance | Zidovudine resistance | Etravirine resistance | Rilpivirine resistance |
|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
|                  | OR (95% CI)         | P value              | OR (95% CI)           | P value               | OR (95% CI)            | P value               |
| NRTI at failure  | <0.001              |                      | <0.001                |                       | <0.001                 |                      |
| Tenofovir vs Stavudine | 10.77 (3.51, 33.05) | <0.001               | 1.76 (0.82, 3.78)     | 0.15                  | 0.31 (0.13, 0.75)      | 0.009                 |
| Zidovudine vs Stavudine | 6.24 (3.00, 13.01)  | <0.001               | 3.13 (1.76, 5.59)     | <0.001                | 6.27 (3.24, 12.13)     | <0.001                |
| Zidovudine vs Tenofovir | 0.58 (0.23, 1.48)  | 0.26                 | 1.78 (0.98, 3.24)     | 0.06                  | 20.21 (9.98, 40.96)    | <0.001                |
| NNRTI at failure |                      |                      |                       |                       |                       |                      |
| Nevirapine vs Efavirenz | 3.39 (2.11, 5.47)  | <0.001               |                       |                       | 2.88 (1.84, 4.50)      | <0.001                |
| NRTIs prior to failure |                      |                      |                       |                       |                       |                      |
| None (failed on initial NRTIs) | 1.78 (0.99, 3.22)  | 0.04                 | 1.31 (0.86, 2.01)     | 0.14                  | 1.51 (0.90, 2.55)      | <0.001                |
| Stavudine only   | 7.82 (0.94, 65.01)  |                      | 2.58 (0.93, 7.14)     |                      | 3.80 (1.34, 10.80)     |                      |
| Stavudine and Zidovudine | 4.21 (0.40, 44.19) | 0.22                 | 2.11 (0.69, 6.51)     | 0.20                  | 8.59 (2.70, 27.28)     |                      |
| NNRTIs prior to failure (vs failed on first NNRTI) |                      |                      |                       |                       |                       |                      |
| Efavirenz        | 0.51 (0.26, 1.00)  | 0.04                 | 1.02 (0.52, 2.01)     |                       | 0.39 (0.20, 0.76)      | 0.005                 |
| Nevirapine       | 2.47 (1.28, 4.76)  |                      |                       |                       | 1.76 (0.92, 3.37)      | 0.005                 |
| Subtype          | 0.002               | 0.32                 | 0.02                  | <0.001                | <0.001                 | <0.001                |
| C vs A           | 3.31 (1.59, 6.88)  | 0.001                | 1.31 (0.78, 2.20)     | 0.30                  | 2.34 (1.24, 4.42)      | 0.009                 |
| C vs D           | 4.08 (1.85, 9.03)  | 0.001                | 1.53 (0.88, 2.67)     | 0.13                  | 2.54 (1.28, 5.05)      | 0.008                 |
| D vs A           | 0.81 (0.48, 1.36)  | 0.43                 | 0.85 (0.57, 1.27)     | 0.44                  | 0.92 (0.58, 1.46)      | 0.73                  |
| Log_{10} viral load at failure | 1.58 (1.15, 2.16) | 0.003                | 1.95 (1.50, 2.53)     | <0.001                | 1.53 (1.15, 2.02)      | 0.003                 |
| CD4 at failure (per 100 cell increase) | 0.59 (0.48, 0.72)  | <0.001               | 0.48 (0.39, 0.59)     | <0.001                | 0.66 (0.55, 0.80)      | <0.001                |
| Clinical failure | 0.79 (0.43, 1.46)  | 0.45                 | 0.99 (0.61, 1.61)     | 0.96                  | 0.75 (0.44, 1.29)      | 0.31                  |
| Years on ART     | 1.13 (0.99, 1.28)  | 0.07                 | 1.03 (0.95, 1.13)     | 0.47                  | 1.19 (1.06, 1.33)      | 0.003                 |
| Fit statistic    |                      |                      |                       |                       |                       |                      |
| Area under the ROC curve | 76% (71%, 80%)  |                      | 75% (71%, 78%)       |                      | 78% (74%, 82%)        |                      |
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Figure 1: Prevalence of major IAS-USA drug resistance mutations by HIV-1 subtype
Figure 2 Prevalence of major IAS-USA drug resistance mutations by drug exposure at first line failure

NRTI

Stavudine (N=200)  
Tenofovir (N=96)  
Zidovudine (N=486)  
Efavirenz (N=193)  
Nevirapine (N=594)

NNRTI

p<0.05: * zidovudine vs tenofovir  ** zidovudine vs stavudine  *** tenofovir vs stavudine  nevirapine vs efavirenz

7 patients were taking none or more than one of stavudine, tenofovir, and zidovudine at failure and were more likely to have the L74V,Y115F mutations only
Figure 3: Overall resistance to NRTI and NNRTI drugs

| Drug | NRTI | NNRTI |
|------|------|-------|
|    | Susceptible | Potential low | Low | Intermediate | High | Percentage with any mutation |
| 3TC | 99% | 5% | 1% | 13% | 68% | 0% | 62% | 30% | 86% | 0% | 0% |
| FTC | 93% | 93% | 56% | 31% | 61% | 54% | 63% | 70% | 97% | 13% | 26% |
| ABC | 95% | 95% | 82% | 57% | 71% | 75% | 77% | 97% | 97% | 55% | 65% |

Percentage:
- Exposure: 99% 5% 1% 13% 68% 0% 62% 30% 86% 0% 0%
- High Resistance: 93% 93% 56% 31% 61% 54% 63% 70% 97% 13% 26%
- Intermediate/high Resistance: 95% 95% 82% 57% 71% 75% 77% 97% 97% 55% 65%
Figure 4a: Intermediate/high level resistance according to exposure or cross-resistance

Figure 4b: High level resistance according to exposure or cross-resistance
