



# Advanced HIV Disease (AHD):

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# Keeping the focus on AHD during the COVID 19 response

- 770,000 people died from HIV/AIDS in 2018 (1), Approximately 1.45 million people died from TB in 2018 (2).
- Severe bacterial infections are a leading cause of that mortality, but the burden is poorly characterised, largely because of limited access to relevant diagnostics. (3)
- The COVID 19 response threatened the response to these pandemics, across many domains, this series aims to support training for those whose work involves addressing AHD at this time, when in person training is restricted.

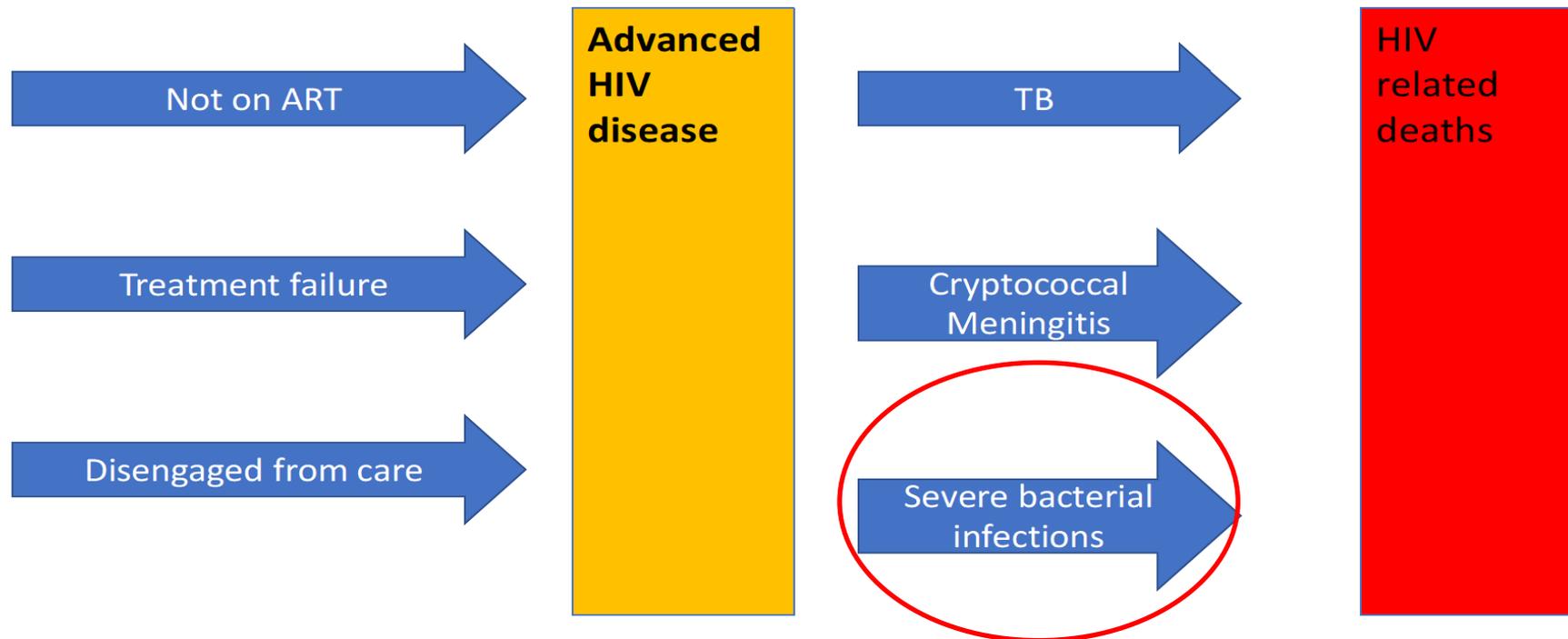
1) UNAIDS global factsheet. <https://aidsinfo.unaids.org/>

2) Global Tuberculosis report, 2019, World Health Organization

3) Gaskell KM, Feasey NA, Heyderman RS. Management of severe non-TB bacterial infection in HIV-infected adults. *Expert Rev Anti Infect Ther.* 2015;13:183–95.

4) <https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/total-deaths-covid-19>

# Severe bacterial infections are one of the leading causes of HIV related deaths – underdiagnosed and undertreated



# What is the deal with bacterial infections?

- Bacterial infection often missed / diagnosed late
  - Need better diagnostics
- Not classified as OIs
  - Not enough emphasis in reporting
- Bacterial infections often mistaken for other things
  - E.g. bacterial pneumonia mistaken for TB
- High levels of resistant organisms seen in some settings
  - Need better treatments

# How can we address this?

- Access to diagnosis
  - Improvements in lab capacity
  - New inexpensive point of care diagnostics
- Better understanding of antimicrobial resistance, the epidemiology
- Role of antibiotic prophylaxis when proven mortality benefit
- Vaccine development

# What prophylactic strategies are already recommended?

- TB preventive therapy - Isoniazid prophylaxis (IPT) or Rifapentine containing prophylaxis (3HP or 1HP), recommended for all PLWHIV who do not have active TB
- Cotrimoxazole prophylaxis, prevents some, not all bacterial infections
  - WHO guidelines recommend providing lifelong co-trimoxazole prophylaxis to everyone living with HIV regardless of CD4 cell count in settings where severe bacterial infections or malaria are highly prevalent.
- However both are under-used, so need increase access

# Thanks for your attention!

For more information, contact CDC  
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)  
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

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