Early ART Module Guide

Objectives:
By the end of the session, trainees will be able to:
- Understand why early ART is an important HIV cure research strategy
- Explain that HIV latency is established very early during HIV infection
- Describe the Fiebig states during acute HIV infection
- Appreciate that early ART can result in a smaller reservoir size
- Identify examples of clinical studies involving early ART

Method:
PowerPoint slide deck, pre-/post-test assessment and case study

Estimated time:
PowerPoint presentation: 45 – 60 minutes
Pre-/post-test assessment: 10 minutes
Case studies: 30 – 45 minutes

Materials:
- PowerPoint deck and note pages
- Pre-/post-test assessment
- Case studies and instruction sheet
- Resources
- Other CUREiculum topics

Planning for a Workshop
Trainers should plan an agenda for the session or workshop. The format of the module can be used as a guide and structure. When designing an agenda trainers should take into consideration the three factors below.

Knowledge level of trainees: Any previous knowledge or experience with HIV cure research or information should be the primary consideration. If the pre-assessment exams are given out prior to the workshop they can provide some insight into a group’s prior understanding level about early ART.

Sector of trainees: The entire CUREiculum is geared to community, particularly areas where research is being planned or conducted. Trainers may want to adjust the knowledge or content slightly based on the audience. For instance an institutional review board may focus on the potential side effects of the cure research strategy.

Total length of the workshop: Approximate times are listed for each component of the module. Trainers should allow for additional time for activities such as: introductions and establishing group norms, coffee/water stretch breaks and workshop wrap up.
Planning for the Trainee Group
When planning a workshop, it is important to consider the level of understanding the trainees will have about HIV cure research prior to the workshop. Trainee level may also determine the length of the overall workshop.

Some questions that may help trainers determine the background level of the trainee group include:
- Have trainees attended a cure research session prior?
- Are trainees involved in HIV research in some capacity?
- Do trainees have prior knowledge about acute HIV infection?

PowerPoint Instructions
Before presenting the PowerPoint read through each slide to get familiar with the content. The notes section will provide presentation tips. It will also describe the content in the slides and provide in depth content that can be introduced during the presentation depending on the knowledge level of trainees. If additional content is needed, please refer to the references and supplementary reading.

Pre-/Post-Test Assessment
Please review the pre-/post-test assessment prior to presenting the module. Questions can be taken from ALL portions of the PowerPoint presentation, including the note pages.

Case Study Activity – VISCONTI Cohort
This module contains a case study activity aims at delving deeper into the module contents. This case study pertains to the VISCONTI cohort and was developed by Sidaction. You can mention this as you go through the PowerPoint slides.