

# FEASIBILITY, EFFICACY, AND SAFETY OF USING DOLUTEGRAVIR/LAMIVUDINE (DTG/3TC) AS A FIRST-LINE REGIMEN IN A TEST-AND-TREAT SETTING FOR NEWLY DIAGNOSED PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV (PLWH): THE STAT STUDY

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## Introduction

- Rapid initiation of antiretroviral therapy (ART) increases ART uptake, improves virologic suppression rates, and reduces onward HIV transmission<sup>1-3</sup>
- Dolutegravir (DTG)/Lamivudine (3TC) is indicated for treatment-naïve people living with HIV (PLWH)
- Questions remain about its use in a test-and-treat setting due to potential transmitted resistance and baseline (BL) hepatitis B virus (HBV) co-infection
  - Globally, the estimated prevalence of transmitted M184V mutations is 1%<sup>4</sup>
  - Although 3TC has activity against HBV infection, it is not recommended for use as monotherapy because of the risk of developing resistance<sup>5</sup>
- The STAT study (ClinicalTrials.gov, NCT03945981) is a phase IIIb, multicenter, open-label, single-arm, pilot study assessing the feasibility, efficacy, and safety of using DTG/3TC as a first-line regimen in a 'test-and-treat' model of care in the United States

## Methods

- Eligible participants were ART-naïve adults aged ≥18 years diagnosed with HIV within 14 days of study entry for whom laboratory results were not available at BL
- DTG/3TC treatment was adjusted if BL testing indicated HBV co-infection, genotypic resistance to DTG or 3TC, or creatinine clearance <30 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>, or as required during the study, and all participants with treatment adjustments remained on study
- Key efficacy analyses
  - Observed:** Proportion of participants with plasma HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL, regardless of ART regimen, among those with available HIV-1 RNA at Week 24
  - Intention-to-treat-exposed (ITT-E) missing = failure:** Proportion of all participants with plasma HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL at Week 24, regardless of ART regimen
    - Participants with HIV-1 RNA ≥50 c/mL at Week 24 or with no HIV-1 RNA assessment at Week 24 due to early discontinuation or still on study but with missing data are classified as HIV-1 RNA ≥50 c/mL
  - FDA Snapshot:** Proportion of all participants with plasma HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL at Week 24 still taking DTG/3TC
- Safety of DTG/3TC was assessed as incidence and severity of adverse events (AEs), drug-related AEs, discontinuation of DTG/3TC due to AEs, and laboratory abnormalities

## Results

### Participant Characteristics

- Overall, 131 participants were enrolled in the study across 16 sites (Table 1)
- Through Week 24, DTG/3TC treatment was adjusted in 8 participants; 15 (11%) participants discontinued study before Week 24 (Table 2)
  - 2 participants met the inclusion criteria for 2 positive HIV tests and enrolled in the study, but later they were found to be HIV negative and withdrew from study

Table 1. Selected Baseline Demographics and Participant Characteristics (ITT-E Population)

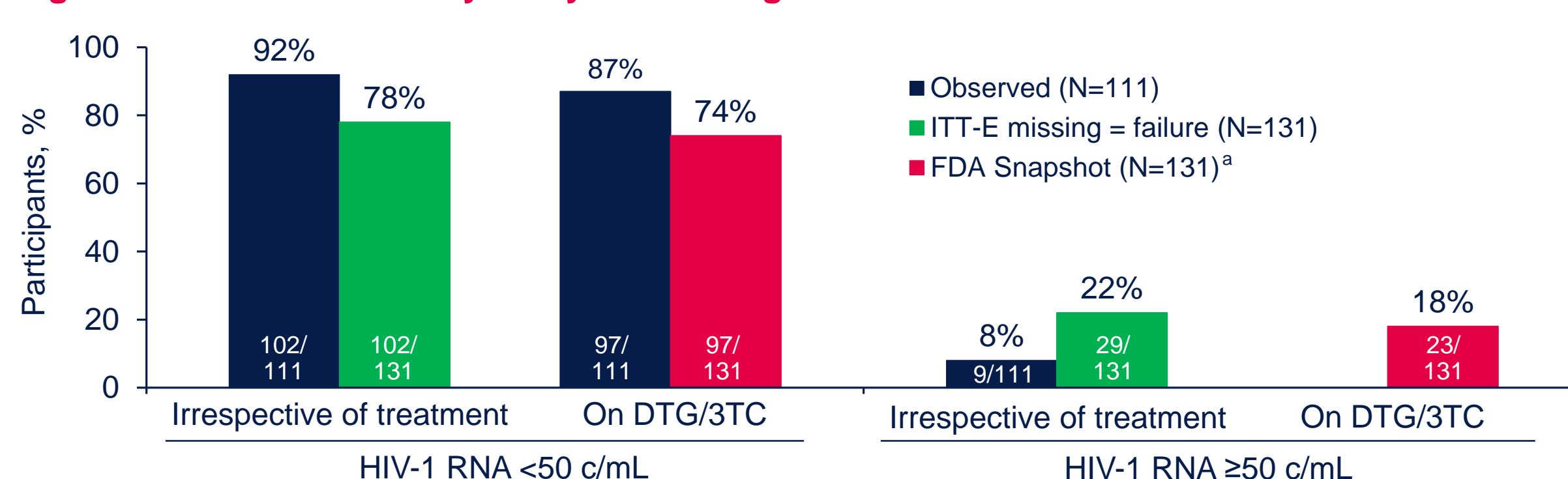
Characteristic	DTG/3TC (N=131)
Age, median (range), years	31 (18-63)
≥50 years, n (%)	20 (15)
Cisgender female, n (%)	10 (8)
Transgender female, n (%)	1 (<1)
Ethnicity, n (%)	
Hispanic/Latino	38 (29)
Not Hispanic/Latino	93 (71)
Race, n (%)	
Black/African American	61 (47)
White	65 (50)
Other	5 (4)
Time to enrollment since diagnosis, median (range), days	5 (0-15)
HIV-1 RNA, median (range), c/mL, n (%) <sup>a,b</sup>	63,056 (<40 to 68,706,840) <sup>c</sup>
<100,000	79 (60)
100,000 to <500,000	32 (24)
500,000 to <1,000,000	9 (7)
≥1,000,000	10 (8)
CD4+ cell count, median (range), cells/mm <sup>3b</sup>	389.0 (<20 to 1466) <sup>d</sup>
<200, n (%)	37 (28)
HBV co-infection, n (%) <sup>b,e</sup>	7 (5)
M184V resistance mutation, n (%) <sup>b</sup>	1 (<1)

<sup>a</sup>1 (<1%) participant had missing plasma HIV-1 RNA results at BL. <sup>b</sup>BL resistance was identified at Week 4, and HIV-1 viral load, CD4+ cell count, and HBV co-infection were identified at Week 1 from samples taken at BL. <sup>c</sup>Lower limit of quantification is <40. <sup>d</sup>Lower limit of quantification is <20. <sup>e</sup>2 participants with HBV co-infection remained on DTG/3TC.

### Virologic Outcomes at Week 24

- Per observed analysis, among participants with available HIV-1 RNA assessment at Week 24 (N=111), 92% achieved HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL (Figure 1 and Table 2) and 98% achieved HIV-1 RNA <200 c/mL at Week 24, irrespective of ART
  - 87% achieved HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL on DTG/3TC without a modified ART regimen
- Per ITT-E missing = failure analysis, among all participants, 78% achieved HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL at Week 24, irrespective of ART (Figure 1 and Table 2)
- ITT-E suppression rates were driven by non-virologic factors (ie, high withdrawal rate)
- At Week 24, median log<sub>10</sub> decrease from BL in plasma HIV-1 RNA on any ART was 3.2 log<sub>10</sub> c/mL (n=110)
- Per FDA Snapshot analysis, among all participants, 74% achieved HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL at Week 24 and were still on DTG/3TC (Figure 1 and Table 2)
- Most participants with very high viral load at BL (>1,000,000 c/mL) achieved HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL by Week 24 (Figure 2)
- No treatment-emergent HIV or HBV resistance-associated mutations were detected
- 2 participants with confirmed virologic failure had no resistance development and both remained on DTG/3TC in study

Figure 1. Results of Efficacy Analyses: Virologic Outcomes at Week 24



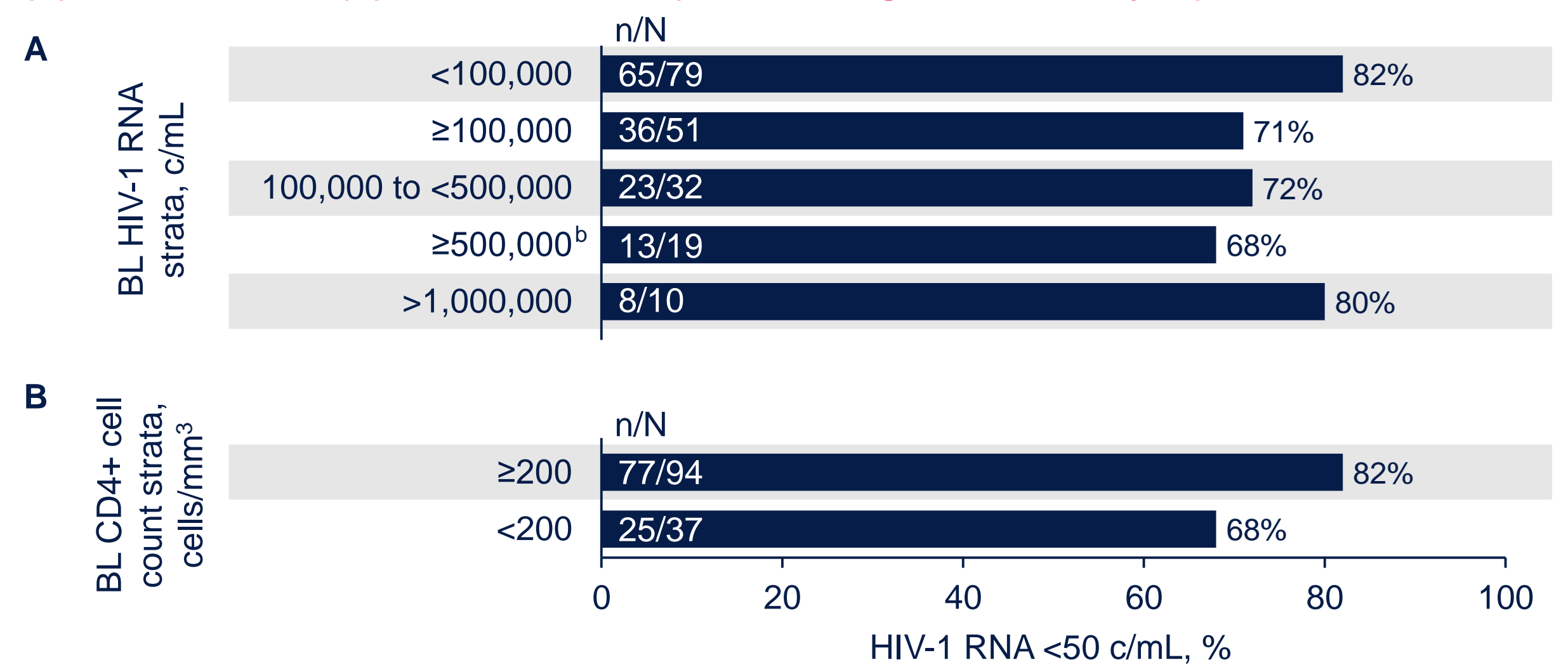
<sup>a</sup>11 (8%) of 131 participants had no virologic data at Week 24.

Table 2. Summary of Virologic Outcomes at Week 24

	DTG/3TC, n/N (%)
<b>Observed analysis</b>	
HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL	102/111 (92)
On DTG/3TC	97/111 (87)
On modified ART	5/111 (5)
<b>ITT-E missing = failure analysis</b>	
HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL	102/131 (78)
HIV-1 RNA ≥50 c/mL	29/131 (22)
Data in window and HIV-1 RNA ≥50 c/mL	9/131 (7)
On study but missing data in window	5/131 (4) <sup>a</sup>
Discontinued study due to lost to follow-up/withdrew consent	12/131 (9) <sup>b</sup>
Discontinued study for other reasons	3/131 (2) <sup>c</sup>
<b>FDA Snapshot analysis</b>	
HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL	97/131 (74)
HIV-1 RNA ≥50 c/mL	23/131 (18)
Data in window and HIV-1 RNA ≥50 c/mL	9/131 (7)
Discontinued for lack of efficacy	0
Discontinued study for other reason and HIV-1 RNA ≥50 c/mL	6/131 (5)
Change in ART	8/131 (6)
No virologic data	11/131 (8)

<sup>a</sup>3 participants missed HIV-1 RNA assessment at Week 24 due to COVID-19. <sup>b</sup>7 due to lost to follow-up; 5 withdrew consent (3 relocations, 1 incarceration, 1 no sub-reason). <sup>c</sup>3 due to physician decision (2 HIV negative, 1 did not show up to several scheduled appointments).

Figure 2. Proportion of Participants With Plasma HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL at Week 24 by BL (A) HIV-1 RNA<sup>a</sup> and (B) CD4+ Cell Count (ITT-E Missing = Failure Analysis)



<sup>a</sup>1 (<1%) participant had missing plasma HIV-1 RNA results at BL. <sup>b</sup>Of the 19 participants with BL viral load ≥500,000 c/mL, 13 (68%) were suppressed to <50 c/mL, 4 remain on study with viral load >50 c/mL (3 <200 c/mL), and 2 discontinued.

- All participants with available data who had an ART adjustment and remained on study at Week 24 had HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL (Table 3)

Table 3. Participants Who Switched From DTG/3TC at Any Time Point by Week 24

Reason for switch	Visit window	Modified ART	Plasma HIV-1 RNA at Week 24
BL HBV	Week 1	DTG/3TC + TAF	<40 c/mL
BL HBV	Week 1	BIC/FTC/TAF	NA <sup>a</sup>
BL HBV	Week 4	DTG + TDF/FTC	<40 c/mL
BL HBV	Week 4	BIC/FTC/TAF or DTG + TDF/FTC <sup>b</sup>	49 c/mL
Decision by participant or proxy	Week 4	BIC/FTC/TAF	NA <sup>c</sup>
BL HBV	Week 8	DTG/3TC + TAF	<40 c/mL
BL M184V	Week 8	DTG/RPV	NA <sup>d</sup>
AE (rash)	Week 12; Week 12	COBI/DRV/FTC/TAF; BIC/FTC/TAF <sup>e</sup>	<40 c/mL

<sup>a</sup>Participant on study but missing data in window. Participant had HIV-1 RNA <40 c/mL at Week 36. <sup>b</sup>Participant participates in another double-blind clinical trial with a tenofovir-based regimen; switched to either Biktarvy or Truvada + Tivicay. <sup>c</sup>Participant withdrew consent after switch from DTG/3TC. <sup>d</sup>Participant had HIV-1 RNA 18,752 c/mL at baseline, <40 c/mL on Day 47, switched to DTG/RPV on Day 49, and had last HIV-1 RNA 54 c/mL on Day 57; participant withdrew consent (due to relocation) on Day 106 (Week 12). <sup>e</sup>Participant switched ART twice.

### Safety

- DTG/3TC was well tolerated, with low rates of grade 2-5 drug-related AEs (2%) and serious AEs (2%; Table 4)
- Median (IQR) percent change from BL in weight was 5.2% (1.4%-8.4%) with DTG/3TC at Week 24
- Absolute median increase in weight was 4.6 kg

Table 4. AEs Reported Under Treatment With DTG/3TC

Characteristic, n (%)	DTG/3TC (N=131)
Any AE	85 (65)
AEs occurring in >5% of participants	
Headache	10 (8)
Diarrhea	8 (6)
Fatigue	8 (6)
Drug-related AEs	
Grade 2-5 AEs	2 (2) <sup>a</sup>
AEs leading to discontinuation of DTG/3TC	
Any SAE	2 (2) <sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>All AEs were grade 2. <sup>b</sup>1 AE leading to discontinuation of DTG/3TC occurred (rash). The event resolved. <sup>c</sup>2 SAEs occurred (cellulitis, streptococcal bacteremia). No fatal SAEs occurred. AEs were coded using MedDRA v23.0.

## Conclusions

- These data demonstrate the feasibility and safety of using DTG/3TC as a first-line regimen in a test-and-treat (rapid ART) setting
- Among participants with available HIV-1 RNA assessment at Week 24, 92% achieved HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL
- Few participants required modification to their ART regimen due to BL resistance or HBV co-infection; therefore, appropriate therapy adjustments in the presence of BL resistance or HBV co-infection can be performed safely via routine clinical care and careful follow-up care after rapid initiation of DTG/3TC

**Acknowledgments:** This study was funded by ViiV Healthcare. The authors thank all participants in the STAT study, all investigators and site staff, the study teams, and all contributors from ViiV Healthcare and GlaxoSmithKline. Editorial assistance and graphic design support for this poster were provided under the direction of the authors by MedThink SciCom and funded by ViiV Healthcare. Data included in this poster have been previously presented in full at American Conference for the Treatment of HIV; August 20-22, 2020; Virtual; Poster.

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