

FEASIBILITY, EFFICACY, AND SAFETY OF DOLUTEGRAVIR/LAMIVUDINE (DTG/3TC) AS A FIRST-LINE REGIMEN IN A TEST-AND-TREAT SETTING FOR NEWLY DIAGNOSED PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV (PLWH): 48-WEEK RESULTS OF THE STAT STUDY

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Introduction

- Rapid treatment of HIV-1 infection has been associated with improved linkage to and retention in care and reduced time to virologic suppression in people living with HIV (PLWH)¹
- Dolutegravir (DTG)/Lamivudine (3TC) is indicated for treatment-naive and treatment-experienced PLWH
- The STAT study (ClinicalTrials.gov, NCT03945981) is a phase IIb, 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 newly diagnosed patients where potential transmitted resistance and baseline (BL) hepatitis B virus (HBV) co-infection are unknown²
- In the primary analysis at Week 24, 78% (102/131) of all participants and 92% (102/111) of those with data available irrespective of treatment achieved HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL²

Methods

- Eligible participants were ART-naive adults in the United States aged ≥18 years diagnosed with HIV-1 within 14 days of study entry for whom BL laboratory results were not available
- 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 m², or as required during the study, and all participants who modified treatment remained on study
- Key secondary efficacy analyses at Week 48
 - Observed:** Proportion of participants with plasma HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL, **regardless of ART regimen, among those with available HIV-1 RNA**
 - Intention-to-treat-exposed (ITT-E) missing = failure:** Proportion of **all** participants with plasma HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL, **regardless of ART regimen**
 - Participants with HIV-1 RNA ≥50 c/mL or with no HIV-1 RNA assessment at Week 48 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 **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)
- 2 participants had false-positive HIV tests at diagnosis and were enrolled, but subsequent HIV-1 RNA testing failed to reveal viral replication and they were withdrawn

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

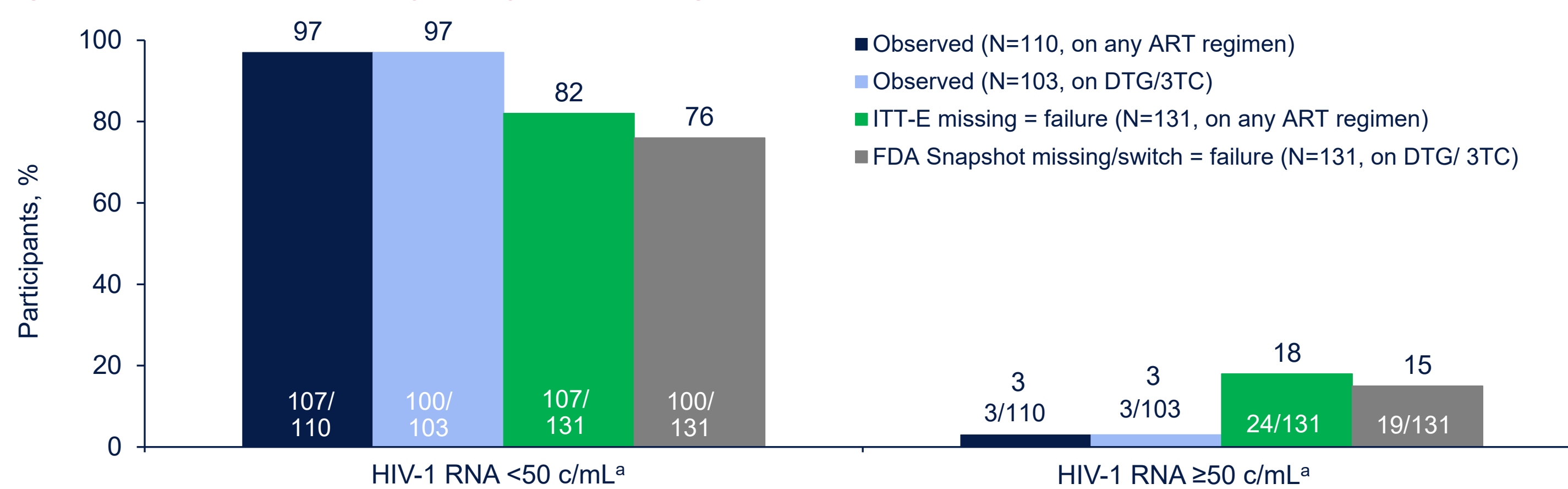
Characteristic	DTG/3TC (N=131)
Age, median (range), years	31 (18-63)
≥50 years, n (%)	20 (15)
Cisgender female, n (%)	10 (8)
Transgender female, n (%)	1 (<1)
Ethnicity, n (%)	
Hispanic/Latino	38 (29)
Not Hispanic/Latino	93 (71)
Race, n (%)	
Black/African American	61 (47)
White	65 (50)
Other	5 (4)
Weight, median (IQR), kg	74.2 (66.0-86.7)
BMI, median (IQR), kg/m ²	24.3 (21.1-27.2)
Time to enrollment since diagnosis, median (range), days	5 (0-15) ^a
HIV-1 RNA, median (range), c/mL, n (%) ^b	
<100,000	63,056 (<40 to 68,706,840) ^c
100,000 to <500,000	79 (60)
500,000 to <1,000,000	32 (24)
≥1,000,000	9 (7)
≥1,000,000	10 (8)
CD4+ cell count, median (range), cells/mm ³	389 (<20 to 1466) ^d
<200, n (%)	37 (28)
HBV co-infection, n (%) ^{e,f}	7 (5)
M184V resistance mutation, n (%) ^e	1 (<1)
Enrolled on day of diagnosis, n (%)	34 (26)

^a1 participant joined the study past the 14-day window after diagnosis (15 days) due to error in entry of diagnosis date; participant remained on study. ^b1 (<1%) participant had missing plasma HIV-1 RNA results at BL. ^cLower limit of quantification is 40 c/mL. ^dLower limit of quantification is 20 cells/mm³. ^eBaseline HIV-1 resistance was identified at Week 4 and HBV co-infection was identified at Week 1 from samples taken at baseline. ^f2 participants with HBV co-infection but no evidence of ongoing HBV viral replication remained on DTG/3TC.

Virologic Outcomes at Week 48

- Most participants in the observed, ITT-E, and Snapshot analyses achieved HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL (Figure 1)
- ITT-E non-suppression rates were driven by non-virologic factors (ie, high withdrawal rate); Snapshot non-suppression rates were driven by study withdrawals and ART modifications
- 18 (14%) participants discontinued study before Week 48 (Table 2)
- At Week 48, median log₁₀ decrease from BL in plasma HIV-1 RNA on any ART was 3.2 log₁₀ c/mL (n=109)
- 2 participants with confirmed virologic failure had no evidence of treatment-emergent resistance and both remained on DTG/3TC in study (1 suppressed to HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL and 1 had HIV-1 RNA 70 c/mL at Week 48)

Figure 1. Results of Efficacy Analyses: Virologic Outcomes at Week 48



^aFor Snapshot HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL analysis, 103/131 participants were on DTG/3TC; for Snapshot HIV-1 RNA ≥50 c/mL analysis, 19/131 participants were on any ART regimen (12/131 participants had no virologic data at Week 48).

Table 2. Summary of Virologic Outcomes at Week 48

	DTG/3TC, n/N (%)
Observed analysis	
Participants with available HIV-1 RNA	110/131 (84)
HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL	107/110 (97)
On DTG/3TC	100/107 (93)
On modified ART	7/107 (7)
ITT-E missing = failure analysis	
HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL	107/131 (82)
HIV-1 RNA ≥50 c/mL	24/131 (18)
Data in window and HIV-1 RNA ≥50 c/mL	3/131 (2)
On study but missing data in window	3/131 (2) ^a
Discontinued study due to lost to follow-up/withdrew consent	14/131 (11) ^b
Discontinued study for other reasons	4/131 (3) ^c
FDA Snapshot analysis	
HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL	100/131 (76)
HIV-1 RNA ≥50 c/mL	19/131 (15)
Data in window and HIV-1 RNA ≥50 c/mL	3/131 (2)
Discontinued for lack of efficacy	0
Discontinued study for other reason and HIV-1 RNA ≥50 c/mL	6/131 (5)
Change in ART	10/131 (8)
No virologic data	12/131 (9)

^a1 participant missed HIV-1 RNA assessment at Week 48 due to COVID-19. ^b6 due to lost to follow-up; 6 withdrew consent (3 relocations, 2 incarcerations, 1 no sub-reason). ^cAll due to physician decision (2 HIV negative, 2 did not show up to several scheduled appointments).

- Among the 3 of 7 participants with HBV co-infection with successful resistance tests, there was no evidence of treatment-emergent resistance in HBV at time of switch off DTG/3TC (when HBV infection was confirmed at BL testing)
- By Week 48, DTG/3TC treatment was adjusted in 10 participants (Table 3)
- All participants with available data who had an ART adjustment and remained on study at Week 48 had HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL
 - 2 participants switched after the Week 48 HIV-1 RNA assessments

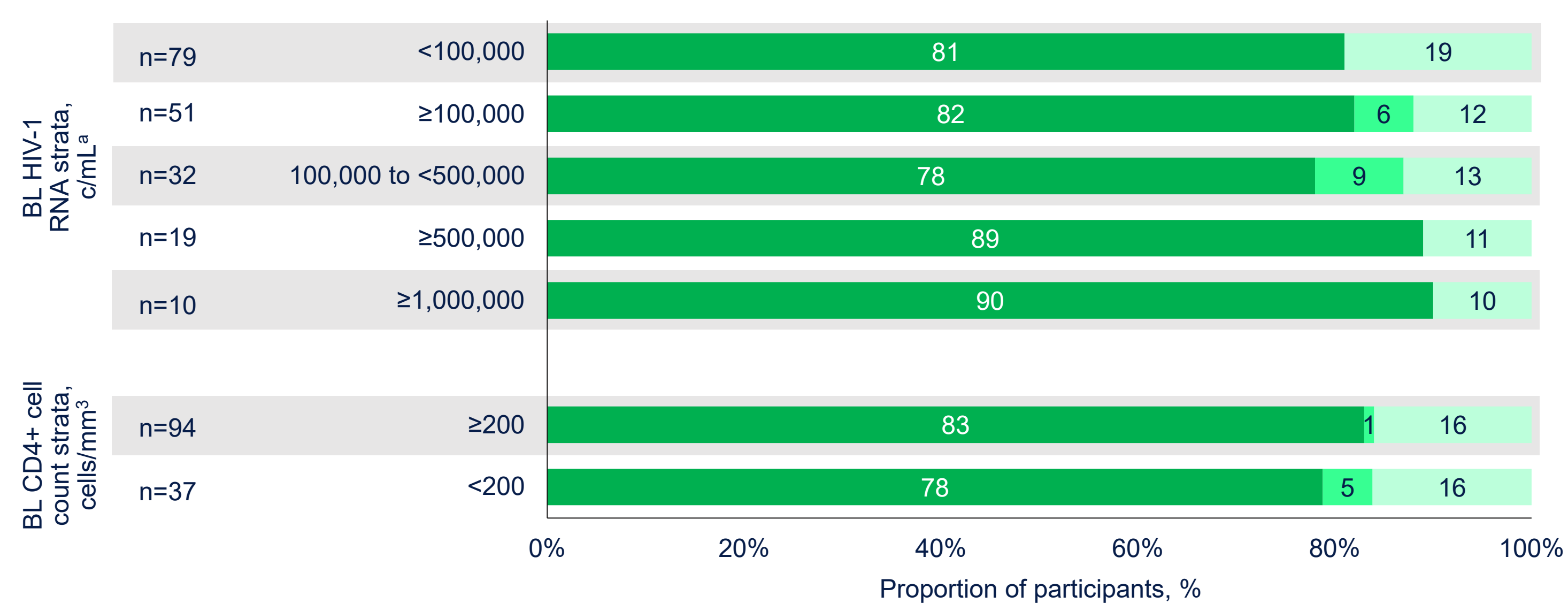
Table 3. Participants Who Switched From DTG/3TC at Any Time Point by Week 48

Reason for switch	Visit window	Modified ART	Plasma HIV-1 RNA at Week 48, c/mL
BL HBV	Week 1	DTG/3TC + TAF	<40
BL HBV	Week 1	BIC/FTC/TAF	<40
BL HBV	Week 4	DTG + TAF/FTC	<40
BL HBV	Week 4	BIC/FTC/TAF or DTG + TDF/FTC ^a	NA ^b
Decision by participant or proxy	Week 4	BIC/FTC/TAF	NA ^c
BL HBV	Week 8	DTG/3TC + TAF	<40
BL M184V	Week 8	DTG/RPV	NA ^d
AE (rash)	Week 12; Week 12	DRV/COBI/FTC/TAF; BIC/FTC/TAF ^e	<40
Decision by participant or proxy	Week 24	BIC/FTC/TAF	<40
Pregnancy	Week 24	DTG/ABC/3TC	327; <40
Participants who switched after Week 48 HIV-1 RNA assessment			
Lack of efficacy	Week 48	DTG + 3TC ^f	223; 182; 831
Non-adherence	Post-Week 48	Off treatment ^g	NA

^aParticipant modified ART by subsequently joining a double-blind clinical trial and was switched to either BIC/FTC/TAF or DTG + TDF/FTC. ^bWeek 36 HIV-1 RNA was 57 c/mL. ^cParticipant withdrew consent after switch from DTG/3TC. ^dParticipant had HIV-1 RNA 18,752 c/mL at baseline, <40 c/mL on Day 47, switched to DTG/RPV on Day 49 due to M184V (despite viral load <40 c/mL), and had last HIV-1 RNA 54 c/mL on Day 57; participant withdrew consent (due to relocation) on Day 106 (Week 12). ^eParticipant switched ART twice. ^fParticipant switched to BIC/FTC/TAF post-Week 48 HIV-1 RNA assessment (after the 831 c/mL assessment); HIV-1 RNA was 51 c/mL at last follow-up visit. ^gParticipant stopped DTG/3TC due to non-adherence and re-started DTG/3TC ~4 months later; last HIV-1 RNA was 104 c/mL at last follow-up visit on modified ART.

- 90% of participants with very high viral load at BL (≥1,000,000 c/mL) achieved HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL by Week 48 (Figure 2)

Figure 2. Proportion of Participants With Plasma HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL at Week 48 by BL (A) HIV-1 RNA and (B) CD4+ Cell Count (ITT-E Missing = Failure Analysis)



^a1 (<1%) participant had missing plasma HIV-1 RNA results at BL.

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 6.1% (0.5%-11.7%), and absolute median increase in weight was 4.9 kg on DTG/3TC at Week 48
- Median (IQR) change from BL in BMI was 1.6 kg/m² (0.1-2.9) on DTG/3TC

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

AEs, n (%)	DTG/3TC (N=131)
Any AE	100 (76)
AEs occurring in ≥7% of participants	
Headache	12 (9)
Diarrhea	10 (8)
Depression	9 (7)
Nausea	9 (7)
Drug-related AEs	10 (8)
Grade 2-5 drug-related AEs	3 (2) ^a
AEs leading to discontinuation of DTG/3TC	1 (<1) ^b
Any SAE	2 (2) ^c
Psychiatric disorders ^d	24 (18)

^aAll AEs were grade 2. ^b1 AE leading to discontinuation of DTG/3TC occurred (rash). The event resolved. ^c2 SAEs occurred (cellulitis, streptococcal bacteremia). No fatal SAEs occurred. ^dAll psychiatric AEs were grade 1 or 2. AEs were coded using MedDRA v23.1.

Conclusions

- In participants with newly diagnosed HIV-1 and rapid DTG/3TC initiation, high virologic suppression rates were observed at Week 48, including in those with very high baseline viral load
- Few participants required modification to their ART regimen due to baseline resistance or HBV co-infection
- Only 2 participants met criteria for confirmed virologic failure, and none had evidence of treatment-emergent resistance; both participants remained on DTG/3TC
- No participants with available genotyping developed treatment-emergent HBV resistance
- DTG/3TC was well tolerated, with only 1 AE leading to discontinuation of study drug
- These data demonstrate the feasibility, good safety profile, and high barrier to resistance of DTG/3TC as a first-line regimen in a test-and-treat setting. Therapy adjustments for baseline resistance or HBV co-infection occurred safely via routine clinical care as needed

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.

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