

# CMEO BriefCase

## Team Approach to Addressing Comorbidities in Aging Populations of People Living with HIV

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# Learning Objective

Utilize team-based interdisciplinary care to optimize HIV and comorbidity outcomes in aging patients.



# Patient Case: Jeff

- 58-year-old man living with HIV x 30 years.
- PMH: hypertension x 6 years, COPD x 3 years.
- Smoked 1.5 packs cigarettes/day for 20 years, stopped at age 48.
- He fell while getting out of the car yesterday and is complaining of knee pain.



## Medications:

**EVG/COBI/FTC/TDF** daily AC  
**Aspirin 81 mg** daily AC  
**Losartan 50 mg** daily  
**Pantoprazole 40mg** daily AC  
**Tiotropium 18 mcg/cap** INH daily  
**Albuterol 90 mcg** 1 INH prn SOB  
**OTC pain relievers** as needed

## Relevant Fasting Labs:

**HIV:** HIV-RNA < 40 c/mL, CD4 580 c/uL  
**DMT2 Screen:** BG 90 mg/dL, HbA1c 6%  
**Vitals:** BMI 24, BP 118/78 mmHg, RR 18 bmp, SpO2 93%  
**Lipids (mg/dL):** TC 160, LDL-C 90, HDL-C 52, TG 130  
**LFTs:** ALT 38 u/L, AST 29 u/L, ALB 3.5 g/dL, TB 0.9 mg/dL  
**Electrolytes:** all WNL, anion gap (corrected) 15 mEq/L  
**Kidney:** BUN 22 mg/dL, Creatinine 0.9 mg/dL, eGFR 99 mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>

## Range:

WNL  
Borderline  
Out

AC = before meals; ALB = albumin; ALT = alanine transaminase; AST = aspartate aminotransferase; BG = blood glucose; BMI = body mass index; BP = blood pressure; BUN = blood urea nitrogen; CD4 = clusters of differentiation 4; COBI = cobicistat; COPD = chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; DMT2 = diabetes mellitus type 2; eGFR = estimated glomerular filtration rate; EVG = elvitegravir; FTC = emtricitabine; HbA1c = glycated haemoglobin; HDL-C = high-density lipoprotein cholesterol; INH = inhale; LDL-C = low-density lipoprotein cholesterol; LFTs = liver function tests; OTC = over the counter; PMH = past medical history; prn = as needed; RR = respiratory rate; SOB = shortness of breath; SpO2 = blood oxygen saturation; TB = total bilirubin; TC = total cholesterol; TDF = tenofovir disoproxil fumarate; TG = total triglycerides; WNL = within normal limits

# Audience Response



**What is Jeff's most likely biological predicted age, according to average results in frailty studies of PAWH?**

A. 48

B. 53

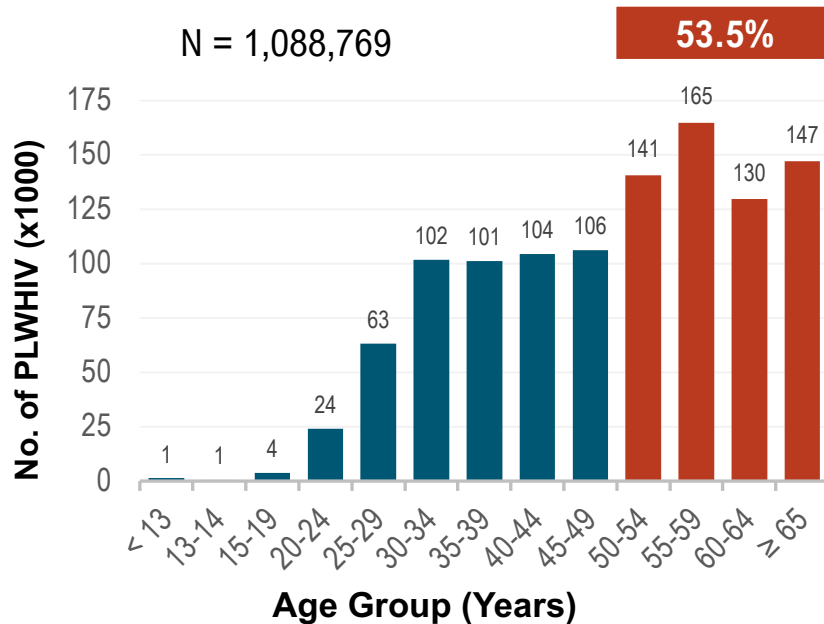
C. 58

D. 68

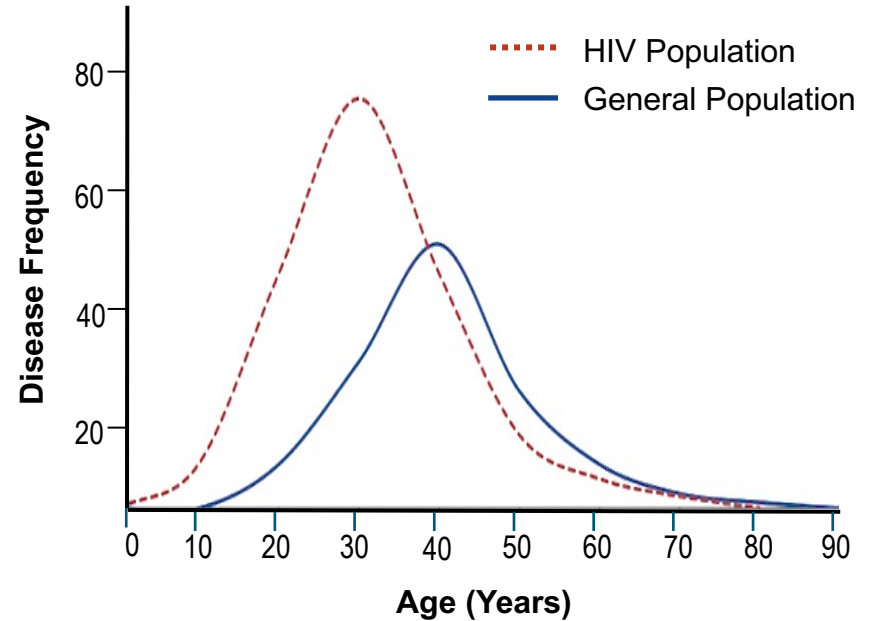
E. I don't know

# Epidemiology of Aging in HIV

## Persons Living with Diagnosed HIV, United States, Year-End 2021



## Accelerated and Accentuated Aging in PLWH

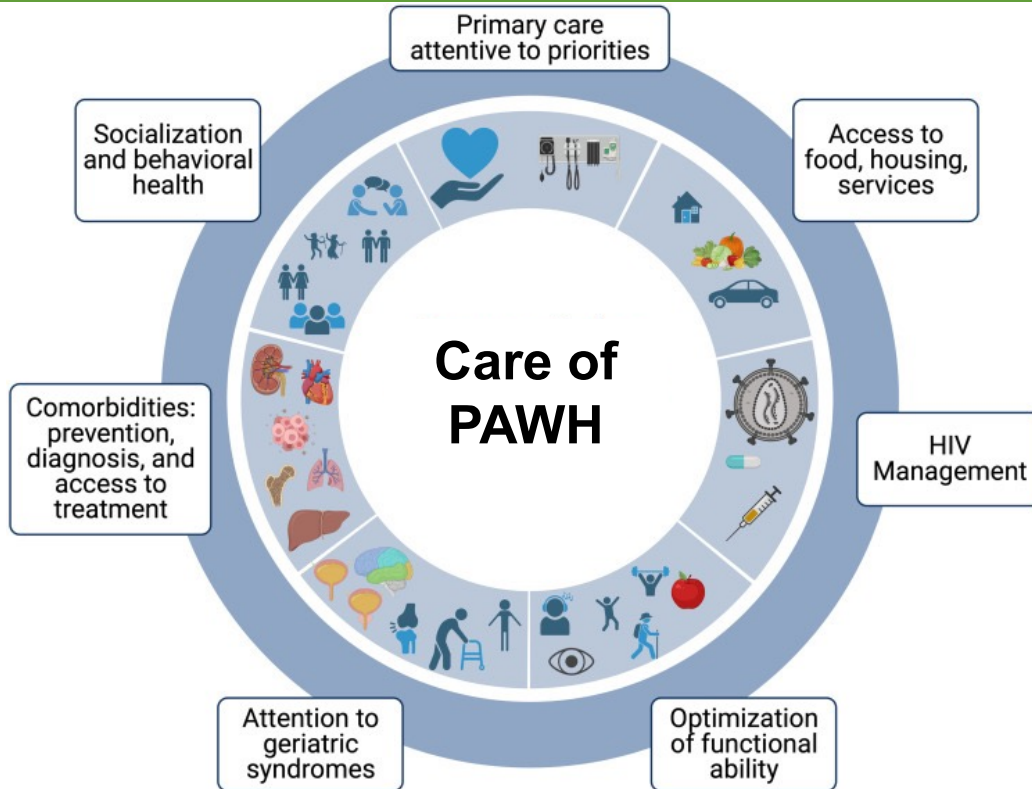


PLWH = people living with HIV

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC]. *HIV Surveillance Report*. CDC Website. 2021. <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/library/reports/hiv-surveillance.html>. Pathai S, et al. *J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci*. 2014;69(7):833-842. Montano M, et al. *Lancet Healthy Longev*. 2022;3(3):e194-e205.



# HIV, Aging, and Chronic Comorbidities



## Key Comorbidity Risks in PAWH:

- Cardiovascular diseases (CVD)
- Osteoporosis and fracture
- Diabetes and metabolic syndrome
- Kidney disease
- Liver disease
- Lung disease
- Non-AIDS related malignancies
- Neurocognitive impairment
- Geriatric syndromes and frailty



# Key Comorbidity Monitoring in PAWH+

## Bone health

- FRAX in men 40–49 years and premenopausal women  $\geq$  40 years; DXA in men  $\geq$  50 years and postmenopausal women

## Cardiovascular health

- Consider statin (pitavastatin 4mg qday preferred) for PLWH > 40 years + LDL > 70 mg/dL

## Liver and kidney health

- Routine CBC, chemistry panel, and urinalysis

## Mental health

- SUD, depression, and neurocognitive impairment screening at every visit

## Medications

- Routine review of polypharmacy and fall risk

## Lung health

- Screen for COPD in PLWH > 40 years

## Cancer

- Anal or Pap, and/or cervical Pap as applicable

## Diabetes

- HbA1c unreliable in PLWH; refer to BG for diagnostic purposes

## Vaccinations

- Offer vaccinations for pneumococcal infection, influenza, Tdap, and meningococcus according to CDC Opportunistic Infection and ACIP guidelines; HPV series offered up to 45 yo in PLWH

ACIP = Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices; CBC = complete blood count; CDC = Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; DXA = dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry; FRAX = Fracture Risk Assessment Tool; HPV = human papillomavirus; SUD = substance use disorder; Tdap = tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis; yo = year old  
Thompson MA, et al. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2021;73(11):e3572-e3605. Feinstein MJ, et al. *Circulation*. 2019;140(2):e98-e124. Grundy SM, et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol*. 2019;73(24):3168-3209. Brown TT, et al. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2015;60(8):1242-1251. Frey E, et al. *HIV AIDS (Auckl)*. 2023;15:191-208. Fitch KV, et al. *Curr Opin HIV AIDS*. 2022;17(5):293-300. Erlandson KM, et al. *Infect Dis Clin North Am*. 2019;33(3):769-786.

# CVD Management in PAWH

Living with HIV (treated, virally suppressed)

Benefits/risks of lipid-lowering therapy uncertain

Age 40-75 years old?

• Age ≥ 21 with **Clinical ASCVD** (prior MI, angina, stroke, or CVD equivalent such as peripheral arterial disease)?  
 • Age ≥ 21 **LCL-c ≥ 190 mg/dl** (untreated)? And/or  
 • Age 40-75 with **Diabetes**?

NO

NO

YES

**Assess ASCVD Risk**  
 using ACC/AHA ASCVD Risk Estimator or alternative (such as D:A:D or Framingham CVD Risk Estimation Model)

**HIV-Related CVD Risk-Enhancing Factors?**  
 Any of the following:  
 • History of prolonged HIV viremia and/or delay in ART initiation  
 • Low current or nadir CD4 count (< 350 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>)  
 • HIV treatment failure or non-adherence  
 • Metabolic syndrome, lipodystrophy/lipoatrophy, fatty liver disease  
 • Hepatitis C virus co-infection

**Risk may not be greater than calculated ASCVD risk**  
 People w/ promptly treated HIV w/out sustained viremia or immunosuppression may not have significantly elevated ASCVD risk

**Risk may greater than calculated ASCVD risk**  
 Consider adjusting risk upward. 1.5-2-fold > risk for ASCVD in PLWH, particularly if there is a hx of prolonged viremia, delayed ART initiation, and/or low CD4 count

**LOW-MODERATE RISK APPROACH**  
**LIFESTYLE OPTIMIZATION**  
 (particularly smoking cessation)  
 +  
**YEARLY RE-ASSESSMENT OF RISK**  
 Consider high risk approach if patient-clinician discussion determines potential benefit > risk and patient preference for high-risk approach

**HIGH RISK APPROACH**  
 Consider referral to cardiologist; patient-clinician discussion re: benefit vs. risk, patient preference  
**LIFESTYLE OPTIMIZATION**  
 (particularly smoking cessation)  
 +  
**LIPID LOWERING DRUG THERAPY**  
 Atorvastatin 10-80 mg\*  
 Rosuvastatin 5-40 mg\*  
 Pitavastatin 2-4 mg  
**Statin Dosing: START LOW, GO SLOW**  
 Decrease dose or discontinue if severe myalgia or unexplained muscle weakness, LFTs > 3x the upper limit of normal, or CK > 10x the upper limit of normal  
 \*Caution d/t drug interactions at high dose; consider if very high risk and/or known CAD. If familial hypercholesterolemia, severe statin intolerance, or insufficient response to statin as; consider ezetimibe +/- PCSK9 inhibitor on an individual basis.

**High Risk for ASCVD?**  
 Determination of high risk based on any of the following:  
 • 10-year ASCVD risk ≥ 7.5% (including potential upward adjustment of estimate if HIV-related CVD risk-enhancing factors are present)  
 If using alternative models, or high-intermediate or greater risk?  
 D:A:D: 5-year CVD risk ≥ 3.5%  
 Framingham: 10-year CVD risk ≥ 10% and  
 • Selected general ASCVD Risk Enhancers:  
 • Family history of early MI/stroke (men < 55, women < 65)  
 • Persistently elevated LCL-c ≥ 160 mg/dL (≥ 4.1 mmol/L)  
 • CKD, pre-eclampsia, premature menopause  
 • Subclinical atherosclerosis (arterial plaque; CAC > 0; ABI < .9)  
 • In selected individuals (if measured): Lp(a) > 50 mg/dL (> 125 nmol/L); hs-CRP ≥ 2.0 mg/L; ApoB ≥ 130 mg/dL

NO

YES

ABI = ankle brachial index; ACC/AHA = American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association; ApoB = Apolipoprotein B; ART = antiretroviral therapy; ASCVD = atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease; CAC = coronary artery calcium; CAD = coronary artery disease; CK = creatine kinase; D:A:D = Data-collection on Adverse Effects of Anti-HIV Drugs; hs-CRP = high sensitivity C-reactive protein; Lp(a) = lipoprotein a; MI = myocardial infarction  
 Feinstein MJ, et al. *Circulation*. 2019;140(2):e98-e124.



# ART Considerations in PAWH



Class	INSTI	NRTI	NNRTI	PI	Entry/capsid inhibitors
<b>ARVs</b>	BIC, CAB, DTG, EVG, RAL	ABC, FTC, 3TC, TAF, TDF, ZDV	DOR, EFV, NVP, RPV	ATV, DRV, LPV	Enfuvirtide, fostemsavir, ibalizumab, lenacapavir, maraviroc
<b>Class Notes</b>	Generally well tolerated. Some reports of CNS and/or GI effects. BIC has lowest side effect profile.	Most renally metabolized. Although unaffected by liver dysfunction, but adequate renal function required.	CYP450 DDIs with rifampin, azoles, anti-epileptic medications, statins, midazolam, ergotamines, antiplatelet agents, among others.	Usually “boosted” with PK enhancers (RTV or COBI), leading to DDIs due to potent inhibition of CYP450.	Less common newer agents Ibalizumab, fostemsavir, and lenacapavir approved for treatment-experienced people with MDR
<b>Age Notes</b>	Oral absorption reduced when co-administered with calcium, aluminum, or magnesium antacids or calcium or iron supplements.	TAF > TDF if renal or bone disease. TAF associated potential weight implications. Tenofovir, FTC, 3TC also treat HBV. ABC requires HLAB*5701 screen and increases cardiac risk.	EFV has CNS effects, including suicidality. RPV taken AC and cannot be initiated with high viral load.	GI upset and HLD common. May decrease INR. Caution with directly acting oral anticoagulants.	MVC is oral and initiation requires viral tropism assay. IBA is infusion or SC. Other agents are injections. Little data with minimal gluteal tissue at injection site.

AVRs = Antiretrovirals; CNS = central nervous system; DDI = drug-drug interaction; GI = gastrointestinal; HBV = hepatitis B virus; HLD = hyperlipidemia; INSTI = integrase strand transfer inhibitor; INR = international normalized ratio; MDR = multidrug resistance; NNRTI = non-nucleotide reverse transcriptase inhibitor; NRTI = nucleos(t)ide reverse transcriptase inhibitor; PI = protease inhibitor; SC = subcutaneous

Department of Health and Human Services [DHHS]. *Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in Adults and Adolescents with HIV*. ClinicaInfo HIV.gov Website. 2019. <https://clinicalinfo.hiv.gov/sites/default/files/guidelines/documents/adult-adolescent-arv/guidelines-adult-adolescent-arv.pdf>. Frey E, et al. *HIV AIDS (Auckl)*. 2023;15:191-208.

# Audience Response



**Which of the following ART strategies is the best choice for Jeff based on ARV guidelines and his personal characteristics and history?**










- A. Stay on EVG/COBI/FTC/TDF as is
- B. Switch to a non-boosted PI regimen
- C. Switch to DRV/COBI/FTC/TAF
- D. Switch to BIC/FTC/TAF

# Polypharmacy Concerns in PAWH

**Polypharmacy has no universal definition: usually  $\geq 5$  medications**

## Medstopper Deprescribing Tool

- High prevalence in PAWH:
  - Polypharmacy-associated hospitalizations
  - Taking inappropriate drugs
  - Elevated anticholinergic risk score
  - Pill burden affecting adherence
- Negative outcomes:
  - DDIs increase side effects or contribute to therapy failure and resistance
  - Anticholinergic burden increases fall risk and contributes to cognitive impairment
  - Side effects mislabeled as comorbidities
- Prescribing inertia and cascade:
  - Continued prescribing of med with unclear origin/need, then new meds added to combat side effects
  - Medstopper provides stopping priorities and suggested tapering approach

Stopping Priority <b>RED</b> = highest <b>GREEN</b> = Lowest	Medication/ Category/ Condition	May improve symptoms?	May reduce risk of future illness?	May cause harm?	Suggested taper approach	Possible symptoms when stopping or tapering	Beers/ STOPP criteria
	oxybutynin (Ditropan)/ incontinence/ <b>incontinence</b>				If used daily for more than 3-4 weeks. Reduce dose by 50% every 1-2 weeks. Once at 25% of the original dose and no withdrawal symptoms have been seen, stop the drug. If any withdrawal symptoms occur go back to approx. 75% of the previously tolerated dose.	return of symptoms	None
	omeprazole (Prilosec, Losec)/ Proton pump inhibitor/ <b>heartburn/GERD</b>				If used daily for more than 3-4 weeks. Reduce dose by 50% every 1-2 weeks. Once at 25% of the original dose and no withdrawal symptoms have been seen, stop the drug. If any withdrawal symptoms occur go back to approx. 75% of the previously tolerated dose.	return of symptoms	

# Audience Response



**Which combination of Jeff's medications is most likely to have contributed to his fall?**

- A. Losartan and an OTC sleep aid
- B. Aspirin and losartan
- C. Pantoprazole and tiotropium
- D. EVG/COBI/FTC/TDF and OTC pain reliever

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**OTC sleep aid** prn sleep

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# Multidisciplinary Approaches to PAWH



# SMART Goals

Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Timely

- Include assessment of frailty and accelerated aging in age-related risk assessments for every patient aging with HIV.
- Use clinical guideline recommendations and best available evidence to implement best practices in the monitoring and management of chronic comorbidities in PAWH.
- Think “beyond undetectable” by reviewing both HIV-related and unrelated medications for polypharmacy concerns ART optimization strategies at every visit.
- Coordinate with multidisciplinary care team members to maximize whole health outcomes of PAWH.

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1

HIV & SUD: Addressing  
Barriers to Viral Suppression

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2

Switching ART Due to  
Treatment Resistance

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3

ART for PLWH Who Are Pregnant  
or of Childbearing Potential

[www.CMEOutfitters.com/infectious-disease-hub/](http://www.CMEOutfitters.com/infectious-disease-hub/)

# Infectious Disease Hub



A robust hub of education and resources to learn more about HIV

<https://www.cmeoutfitters.com/infectious-disease-hub/>

# To Receive Credit

To receive CME/CE credit for this activity, participants must complete the post-test and evaluation online.

Participants will be able to download and print their certificate immediately upon completion.