

# An audit on accuracy of baseline investigations in newly diagnosed adult HIV-1 positive individuals

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## Introduction

Accurate initial assessment of all new HIV patients is an important area of practice and patient care. The BHIVA 2016 monitoring guidelines provide a consensus regarding the standard assessment of HIV infection from the time of diagnosis. We noted anecdotally that not all baseline investigations were being recorded, potentially missing important aspects of patient care.

## Aim

To assess the adherence of our HIV service to the 2016 British HIV Association (BHIVA) guidelines for the routine investigation of adult HIV-1-infected individuals in a cohort of newly registered patients.

## Methodology

A retrospective case-note review of all newly registered patients during a three-month period. Electronic patient records were examined and data on 22 discrete investigations were gathered to assess adherence to the monitoring guidelines. The outcome measure used was whether the investigation was performed or not.

## Results

Areas where the service performed well and 100% of patients received testing included: HIV viral load, CD4+ cell count, HIV drug resistance, HLA B5701 and Hepatitis B and C status. Areas where the service performed less well and <80% of patients received testing included: screening of sexual health, mental health and latent TB infection (LTBI) and cardiovascular and fracture risk assessment.

Demographics			
Total		53	%
Service	Site 1	11	20.8%
	Site 2	5	9.4%
	Site 3	3	5.7%
	Site 4	34	64.1%
Sex	Male	38	71.7%
	Female	15	28.3%
Age	16-39	24	45.3%
	40-49	18	34.0%
	50+	11	20.7%

Figure 1. Table of demographics

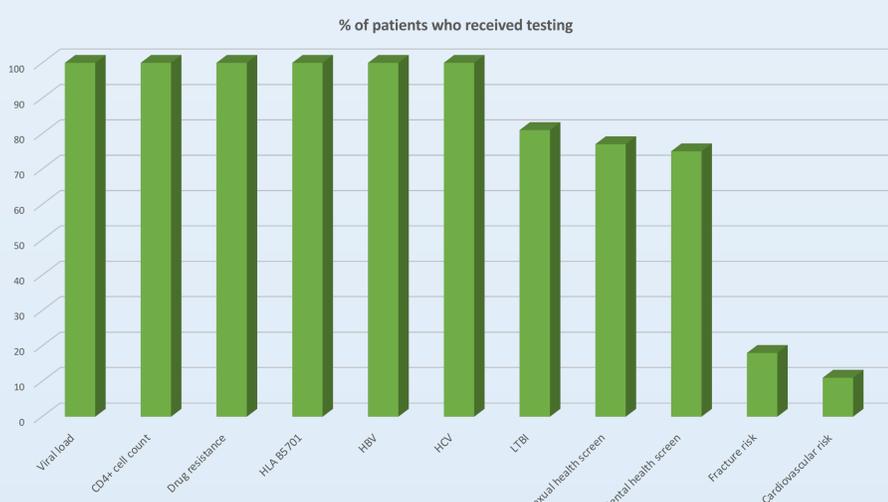


Figure 2. Chart depicting the % of patients who received testing

## Conclusion & Recommendations

The key areas for improvement found were in measuring and recording data on cardiovascular and fracture risk in eligible patients.

Recommendations made included the following:

- Updated and accurate baseline investigation bundle.

New Patient Bloods Bundle	
FBC	Syphilis
U&E	Hep A Total Ab
LFT	Hep B Core Total Ab
Bone profile	Hep B Surface Ab
Cholesterol/Triglyceride	Hep C IgG Ab
HbA1c	HLA B5701
HIV confirmatory	uPCR
HIV viral load	TB Elispot
HIV genotyping	Measles antibodies
CD4	VZV antibodies

Figure 3. Updated baseline investigation bundle

- New electronic medical HIV assessment proforma which includes a link to the FRAX calculator and a prompt to test for LTBI.

HIV New Patient Medical Assessment Proforma
Problem list: HIV diagnosis date: Last negative test: HLA B5701 result:
Medical History: Previous ART exposure: Current ART: Other prescribed and over the counter medications: Drug allergy history: Social history including alcohol, smoking and recreational drugs: Sexual history: Family testing (refer to HIV health advisor for untested children):
Relevant bloods:
FRAX score: <a href="https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/FRAX/tool.aspx?country=1">https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/FRAX/tool.aspx?country=1</a>
QRISK3:
Last cervical smear date and result:
Impression:
Plan:
Checklist: Sexual health screen offered in last 4/52 Cervical smear booked LTBI screen considered Has seen HIV nurse, HIV health advisor and been offered peer support referral Please fill in HARS form

Figure 4. HIV New Patient Medical Assessment Proforma

- Increased number of BP machines and weighing scales in clinical areas to improve cardiovascular risk recording.
- Strict adherence to a four-appointment pathway for a new patient: HIV nurse, HIV health advisor, HIV doctor and HIV peer support to improve capture of key information, provision of relevant support and signposting of patients.

The new HIV diagnosis pathway in the service is currently being redesigned and the findings from this audit will inform the design.