

# PATIENT SATISFACTION SURVEY ABOUT INTRAMUSCULAR INJECTIONS OF LONG-ACTING ANTIRETROVIRAL TREATMENT FOR HIV

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## BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE

The intramuscular (IM) injections of long-acting cabotegravir and rilpivirine is a new alternative antiretroviral treatment for HIV that may increase patient satisfaction, reducing stigma, and facilitate adherence. Real world data could provide information on patient satisfaction about their HIV therapy

## AIM AND OBJECTIVES

To assess motive and patient satisfaction of switching from oral antiretroviral treatment to IM injections of long-acting cabotegravir and rilpivirine.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS:

**Patients** who **Changed** Antiretroviral treatment from **Oral to Long-Acting IM**

A prospective, observational study.

From March 2024 to September 2024

Information was obtained through:  
-Anonymous Likert type survey with 10 questions  
(combination of satisfaction scale ESTAR and questionnaire CESTA)

Responses were reported on a 6-point Likert scale, ranging from very dissatisfied (0) to very satisfied (6):

- satisfaction (6-5)
- partial satisfaction (4,3,2)
- unsatisfied (1,0).

## RESULTS/KEY FINDINGS

**A total of 84 patients:**

38 (45%) answered the survey

Mean time receiving long-acting treatment were 4 months (1-15).

Motives for switching were: to avoid forgetting doses (n=21); convenience (n=18); reduce social/familiar impact (n=6), reduce diary reminders of HIV (n=4); others (n=2); no answered (n=2).



| Question                     | Satisfaction | Partial satisfaction | Unsatisfaction |
|------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|----------------|
| 1. Switching satisfaction    | 100% (n=38)  | 0                    | 0              |
| 2. IM adverse events         | 94,7% (n=36) | 5,3% (n=2)           | 0              |
| 3. IM requirements           | 94,7% (n=36) | 5,3% (n=2)           | 0              |
| 4. IM convenience            | 100% (n=38)  | 0                    | 0              |
| 5. Oral flexibility          | 50% (n=19)   | 36,8% (n=14)         | 13,2% (n=5)    |
| 6. IM flexibility            | 86,8% (n=33) | 13,2% (n=5)          | 0              |
| 7. Oral lifestyle adjustment | 39,5% (n=15) | 44,7% (n=17)         | 15,8% (n=6)    |
| 8. IM lifestyle adjustment   | 100% (n=38)  | 0                    | 0              |
| 9. Switching recommendation  | 100% (n=38)  | 0                    | 0              |
| 10. Willingness to continue  | 100% (n=38)  | 0                    | 0              |

## CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE

- The main motivation for switching were improving adherence and convenience.
- Long-acting HIV treatment showed good results in terms of satisfaction
- Long-acting HIV treatment improve the adaptation of the therapy to the HIV patients lifestyle.

