

NATIONAL AIDS-STI CONTROL PROGRAM

SOP FOR SIX MONTHLY SCRIPTING / DISPENSING



HEALTH CARE AND FACILITY PREPARATION

Facilities will utilize the Facility Assessment and Preparation Tool provided to assess whether the facility meets the standard requirements necessary to operationalize the DSD model. In cases where the facility does not meet the requirements, urgent remediation steps must be undertaken before the DSD model is rolled out at the facility. The facilities will use the tool to assess their capacity in implementing new guidelines; effectively manage its HIV commodities and have up-to-date data capture tools. Wherever gaps are identified, facilities will initiate remediation steps to fill the gaps and ensure there is adequate capacity to implement six-month prescription.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR SIX MONTHLY REFILL PROGRAM

After the first six months on ART, most patients will have developed good adherence habits, have adequate coping mechanisms and support systems in place, and will have achieved virologic suppression. With their improved self-care, these "stable patients" require less intensive follow-up and monitoring than other patients. "Stable Clients" as defined by the criteria below will be eligible for six monthly scripting:

- o At least 18 years of age
- o On ART treatment for at least six months
- o On the current ART regimen for at least three months
- o Maintain good medication adherence habit
- o No current severe side effects
- o No opportunistic infections that could compromise ART
- o VL within the last 6 months <1000 copies/mL
- o Not pregnant or breast feeding
- o Emergency and natural disaster situations

ART provider may consider enrolling clients that may not satisfy all criteria for a stable client. ART provider must balance the burden of more frequent clinic visits with the benefits to the ART client of on

individual basis. However, ART provider should clearly document item the client does not satisfy in the criteria for stable clients and a plan to rectify where possible. For example, a 17-year-old tailor, financially stable and married may be given six months refill while a 25-year-old schoolteacher who will likely move to a different city in the next three months should not be given six months refill.

