



Statement Clarifying Claims of People Living with HIV limited to one-week ARV supplies amid shortages.

Harare, December 12, 2024: We would like to address recent claims regarding the supply of antiretroviral (ARV) medications in Tsholotsho and availability of Viral Load reagents in Mangwe, Matabeleland North and South respectively, particularly the assertion that healthcare facilities are reducing ARV supplies to as low as one week due to shortages.

While it is acknowledged that there have been reports of challenges in the supply chain, we want to clarify that claims of systematic repackaging of ARVs into smaller quantities are misleading. Following investigations conducted, the Zimbabwe National Network of People Living with HIV (ZNNP+) along with the Pharmacy Directorate at the Ministry of Health and Child Care can verify the following:

- **Availability of Medications:** ARV medications are available; however, the facilities in question do not have smaller packaging options and have in-stock large bottles intended for a 90-day supply. This has led to the perception of repackaging.
- **Shorter Refill Instances:** Instances where some Recipients of Care receive shorter refills are typically due to their classification as unstable clients, requiring closer monitoring for enhanced adherence, or because they are newly initiated into ART and are therefore given short-term supplies in accordance with established policy.
- **Availability of Viral Load and CD4 test reagents:** The districts (Mangwe and Luveve) experienced stock raptures especially of the DBS Kits for Viral Load. However, stock availability has been restored. On CD4 testing, we continue to engage the Ministry of Health and Child Care to ensure universal access to CD4 testing, an important gateway to Advanced HIV Disease (AHD) services

We encourage community members to communicate any concerns regarding ARV access directly with their healthcare providers. Recipients of Care are also encouraged to reach out to ZNNP+ to share concerns through the tollfree under *Kutabila* PLHIV and Communities Platform: 08080441. Open dialogue is essential to effectively address these issues.

Press Release



As ZNNP+, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Child Care, the National AIDS Council, and our partners, we will continue to monitor ARV supplies within the constituencies we serve, particularly for people living with HIV.

About ZNNP+

ZNNP+ is Zimbabwe`s largest network of people living with HIV. It is a community entity that advocates for the interests of PLHIV in their diversity, to ensure they have access to quality care and treatment and are treated with dignity.

For More Information

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