South Africa Update

CQUIN 5th Annual Meeting

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icap Global Health

HIV Learning Network
The **CQUIN** Project for Differentiated Service Delivery

Outline

- **Where are we now?**
  - CQUIN Dashboard Results
  - DART Model Mix

- **How did we get here?**
  - Update on CQUIN Action Plan
  - COVID19 specific adaptations
  - Successes and Challenges

- **2022 goals and targets**

CQUIN Dashboard Results

- South Africa noted significant improvement between 2020 and 2021

- **12 out of 13** domains reached Dark Green staging (most mature)

- Notable improvement in 3 domains:
  - ✓ DMOC/DSD Scale Up Plan
  - ✓ M&E System
  - ✓ Quality

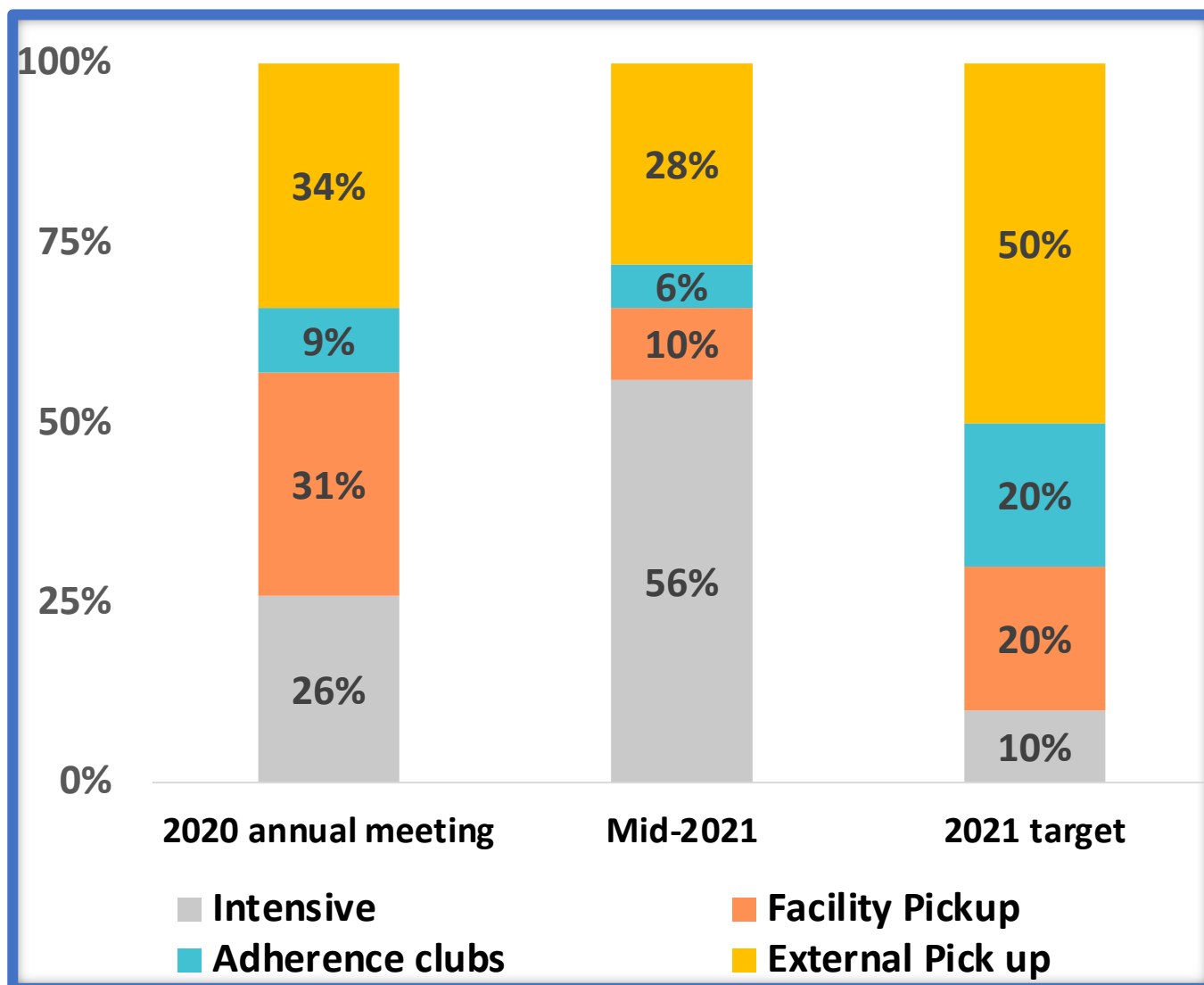| Domain	2017	2018 I	2018 II	2019	2020	2021
Policies						
Guidelines						
Diversity						
Scale-Up Plan						
Coordination						
Community Engagement						
Training						
SOPs/Job Aids						
M&E System						
Facility Coverage*						
Patient Coverage						
Quality						
Impact						

Change in Dashboard Domains since 2020

- **Scale up Plan** moved from **Light green** to **Dark Green**
- **M&E System** moved from **Yellow** to **Dark Green**
- **Quality moved from Light green** to **Dark Green**

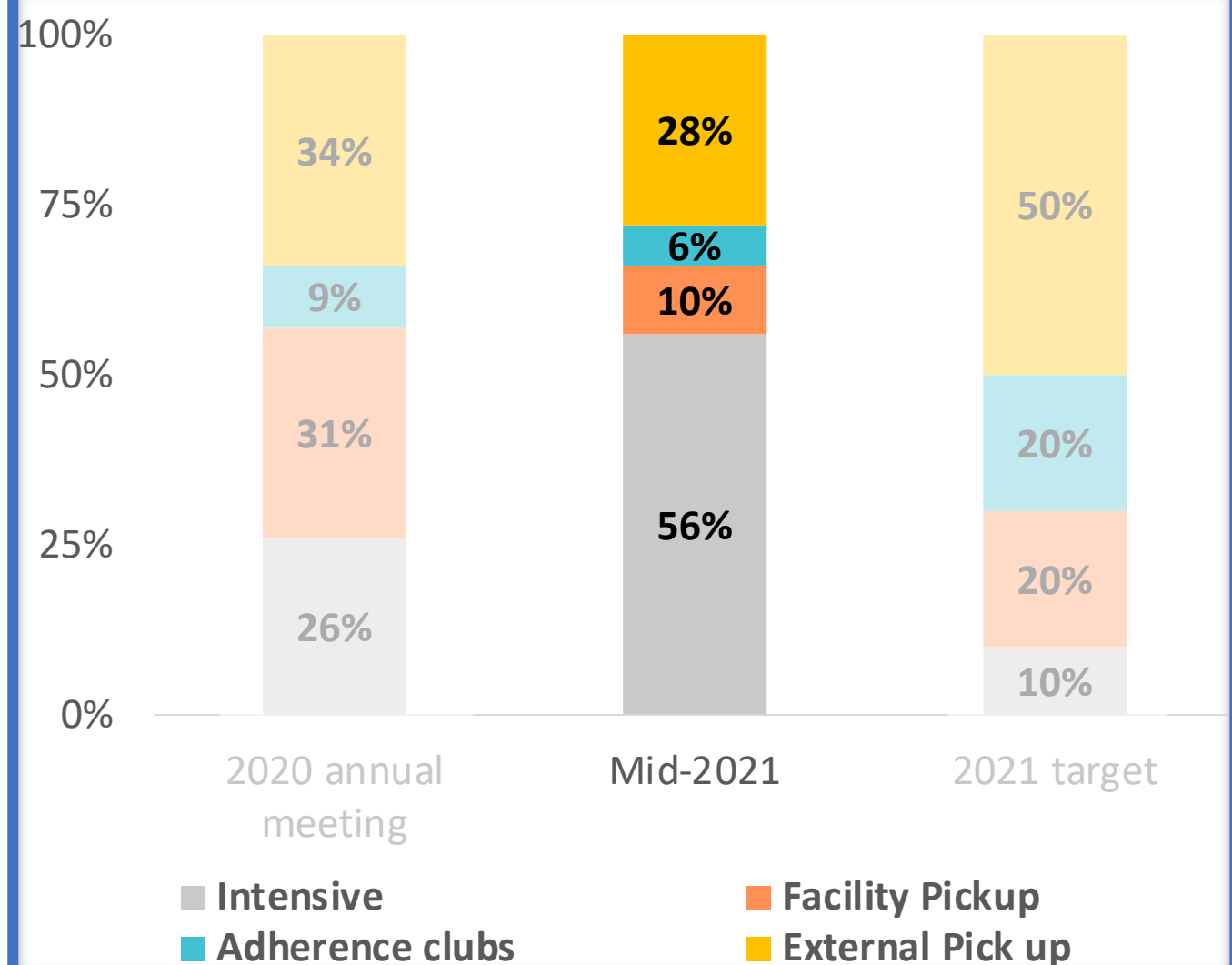| Change in Dashboard Domains			What Contributed to the Change?
Domain	**2020**	**2021**	
DSD Scale Up Plan			• All 9 provinces are orientated on the revised AGL-SOPs. This includes districts and District Support Partners & PEPFAR Agencies. • Optimal implementation of DSD/DMOC
M&E System			• DSD/DMOC Indicator included in the Tier.Net and Central Chronic Medicine Dispensing and Distribution (CCMDD) EMR systems • DMOC Indicator part of Business Plans process & Division of Revenue Act (DORA) reporting requirement • Ongoing technical support to optimize Tier.net use and data analytics using longitudinal systems
Quality			• Initiative of Operation Phuthuma Quality Improvement Handbook for the Nerve Centres

Differentiated Treatment Model Mix

- South Africa has 3 recognized "Less Intensive Models"/ Repeat Prescription Collection Strategies (RPCS) in South Africa: External Pick-Up Point (Ext-PuP); Facility Pick Up Point (FAC-PuP) and Adherence Club (AC)

- More Intensive model known as Conventional Model (Comprised of Newly initiated on ART, High VL, Loss to Follow-up (LTFU), Deregistered from DSD/RPCS.

Differentiated Treatment Model Mix

- **The Covid-19 hard lockdown regulations had effect of less intensive models.**

- However, during mid-year 2021 the proportion of **External Pick-Up Point (Ext-PuP**) **was higher (28%)** compared to **Facility Pick Up Point (FAC-PuP) (10%) and Adherence Club (AC) (6%)**

- The significant decrease of FAC-PuP and AC exacerbated by hard Covid-19 lockdown regulations discouraging social gatherings & Many clients fear.

- Meanwhile, the Conventional Model increased due to patients Newly initiated on ART, High VL, Loss to Follow-up (LTFU), Deregistered from DSD/RPCS both not eligible for Less Intensive Model
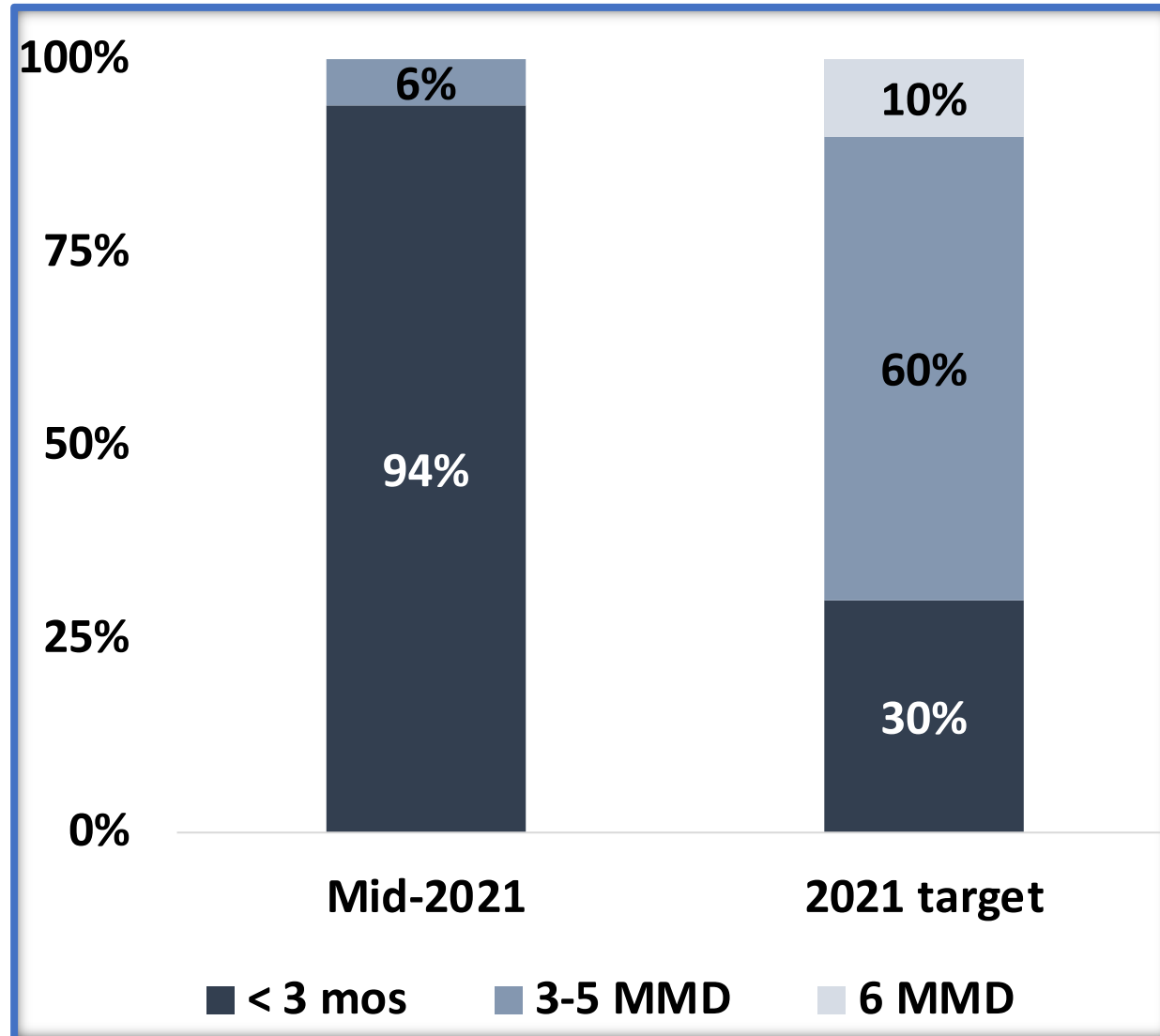
AHD Dashboard Results

- Significant improvement in AHD dashboard staging results for 2021 compared to 2020.

- **14 out of 18 domains** = Dark Green and only 4 domains = Light Green

- Domains needing improvement:
  - ✓ AHD Training
  - ✓ AHD M&E System
  - ✓ AHD Quality
  - ✓ and conducting evaluation studies to determine the impact of AHD services

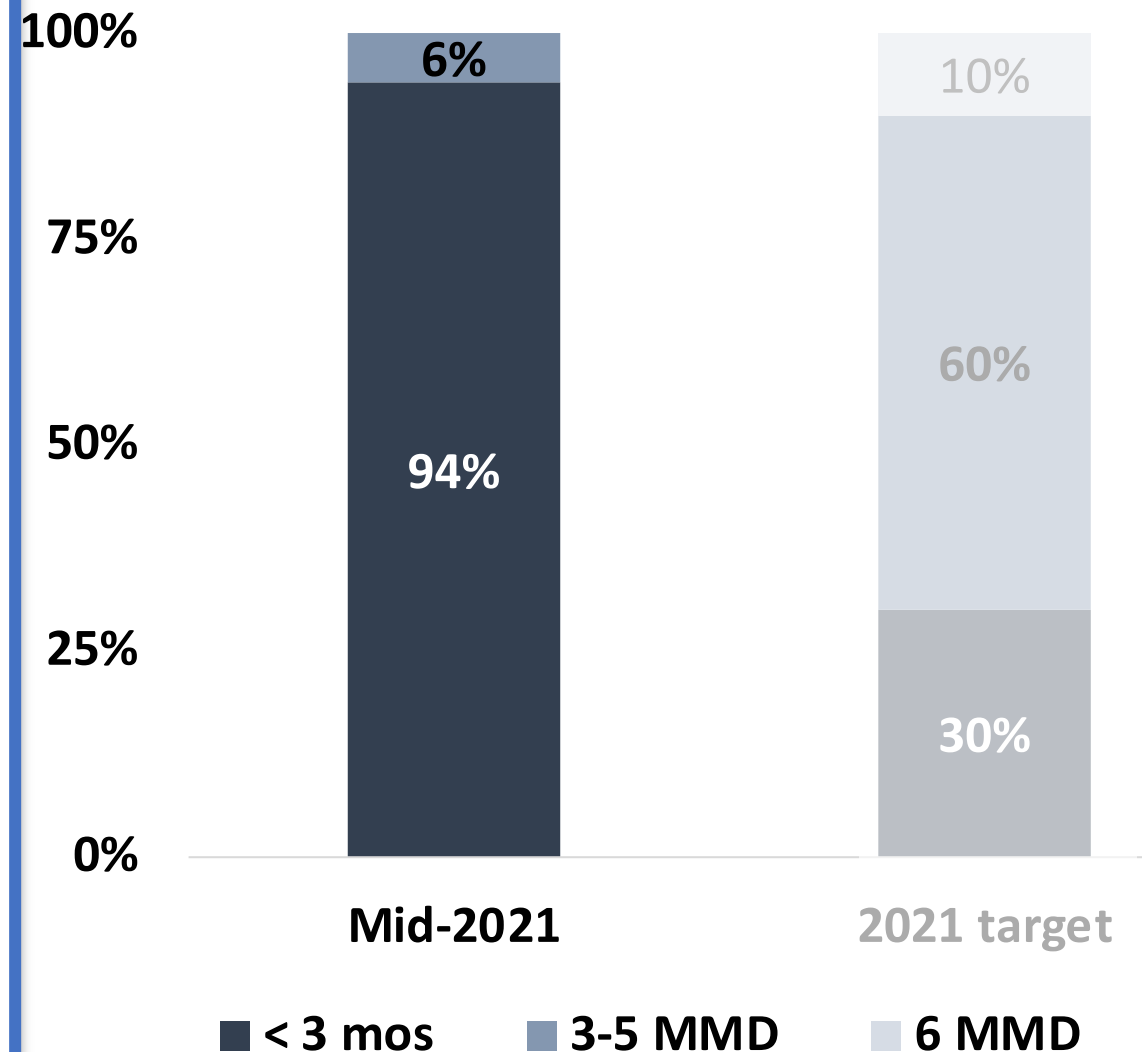| AHD Dashboard Results		
Domain	**2020**	**2021**
Policies		
Guidelines		
National AHD Implementation Plan		
Standard Operating Protocols (SOPs)		
Coordination		
Engagement of Recipients of Care		
Training		
Diagnostic Capacity 1 (Advanced Immunosuppression/AHD)		
Diagnostic Capacity 2 (Opportunistic Infections & Comorbidies: Xpert, MTB/Rif assay, TB LAM & CrAG)		
Facility Coverage*		
Patient Coverage 1 (AHD Testing)		
Patient Coverage 2 (Screening for AHD Immunosuppression)		
Patient Coverage 3 (Prevention of OIs)		
Patient Coverage 4 (Management of OIs)		
Supply Chain Management for AHD Commodities		
M&E System		
Quality for AHD Services		
Impact for AHD Services		

Multi-Month Dispensing

- ART clinical guidelines, made provision for MMD 1 to 2 months.

- Policy adaptation due to Covid-19 in April 2020 recommended for 3MMD scale up.

- 6MMD demonstration process in two provinces begun with further discussion to assume HIV & NCDs approach underway at Steering Committee level.

Mid-2021: < 3 mos 94%, 3-5 MMD 6%
2021 target: < 3 mos 30%, 3-5 MMD 60%, 6 MMD 10%

Legend: ■ < 3 mos ■ 3-5 MMD ■ 6 MMD

Multi-Month Dispensing

- MMD scale up plateaued during 2021 mid-year reporting period.

- The Flatline was affected by drug stock instability and shortages, exacerbated by effects of Covid-19 lockdown regulations that disrupted the supply chain mechanisms.

- Therefore, high proportion (94%) of patients still receives 1 – 2 months dispensing. Meanwhile only 6% receive MMD3 as informed by policy adaptation due to Covid-19.

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Update on CQUIN Action Plan – 1

Activities that have been successfully completed include:

- **Goal #1 : To Improve implementation of National DSD Scale-up Plan from light green to dark green by end-2021 (ACHIEVED)**
- Convened DMOC/DSD Technical working Group meetings/ DSD performance reviews to improve coordination and scale up of DSD plans (FAC-PUP, Ex-PUP, AC)
- Optimized SI Operation Phuthuma platform to review and track the DSD/DMOC scale up plans
- **Goal#2: To Improve M&E System from yellow to dark green by end-2021 (ACHIEVED)**
- DSD/DMOC Indicator included in the Tier.Net and CCMDD EMR systems
- DMOC Indicator part of Business Plans process & DORA reporting requirement
- Ongoing technical support to optimize Tier.net use and data analytics using longitudinal systems
- **Goal #3: To improve Quality domain score from light green to dark green by end-2021 (ACHIEVED)**
- Engagements with Operation Phuthuma for inclusion of DMOC/DSD domains in the OP Handbook for Quality Improvement
- Plans to operationalize DMOC in the OP nerve center handbook underway

Update on CQUIN Action Plan – 2

One or two activities that were dropped or are still underway include:

- DSD register pilot to be finalized in the two provinces (KZN and NW) in November 2021
- DSD/ DMOC Performance Reviews continues in the Provinces (Starting in KZN in November)

Were any items added to the action plan midyear?

After the Differentiated MNCH meeting in May 2021?

- Evaluation of the implementation of the National policies and guidelines (PMTCT, SRH, MCH including genetics) Youth and Adolescent, Infant and Young child and HIV guidelines
- Maternal Child and Women's Health (MCWH) reviews in all provinces, between September – November 2021

After the Differentiated KP services meeting in August 2021?

- Finalizing the Key Population Sector plan
- Expanding Key Population friendly services
- Developed the KP logic framework
- Updated the STI screening tool to included KPs
- Plans to visit Free State Province to learn best practices as they have a good model for KP

DMOC/ DSD

- DSD performance Reviews to be conducted in all the provinces, however, plans to start with KZN and NW where the DSD register pilot are underway

COVID-specific adaptations

Three to four policies adapted in response to COVID19

- Adherence Guideline (AGL) Standard Operating Procedures. Minimum Package of Interventions to Support Linkage to Care, Adherence and Retention in Care
- National consolidated guidelines for the management of HIV in adults, adolescents, children and infants and prevention of mother to child transmission.
- Response to reduce risk among HIV and TB patients within the context of the COVID-19 pandemic: The South African response to COVID-19
- Community ART SOP
- Managing Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health During the COVID-19 Pandemic in South Africa: A Clinical Guide for Health Workers and Managers

Which of these will be sustained beyond COVID19?

- All the above

M&E adaptations made in response to COVID19 and new DSD policies adapted to enhance data reporting

Developed DSD/ DMOC indicator for programme reporting

DSD/DMOC Indicator included in the Tier.Net and CCMDD EMR systems.

DSD/DMOC Indicator part of Business Plans process & DORA reporting

Conducted individual provincial engagements on the reporting of DSD/DMOC indicators DORA reporting requirement

Developed the Operation Phuthuma Quality Improvement Handbook (DMOC/DSD Indicator Stepwise Summary Charts & Key Drivers for Improvement

Ongoing technical support to optimize Tier.net use and data analytics using longitudinal systems

Successes

Significant improvement & Maintenance of DSD dashboard staging domains **(12 out of 13 domains reached Dark Green staging)**

Significant improvement on AHD dashboard staging **(14 out of 18 domains currently on Dark Green)**

Adoption of **DSD for HIV & NCD integration; DSD for TB/HIV; DSD for MCWH; DSD for Key Population; DSD for AHD; DSD quality**

To have provinces reporting on the DSD indicators as new indicators through the DORA framework

Continuous engagements with the national CCMDD programme on DSD scale-up and monitoring

Inclusion of Civil Society forum in the DSD TWG meetings, and have them presenting their work

Virtual Provincial engagements on catch-up plans progress

Challenges (other than COVID-19)

Case finding (Mainly Men & Children under 15 years)

- Sub-optimal scale-up of Index testing and HIV Self Screening.

Poor linkage to care

- Men predominately not willing to be linked to facilities (Attributing to Health Seeking Behavior)

Gaps in treatment initiation and retention in care

- Started on ART currently at 72%, below the required target to close treatment gap
- Slow implementation of Community ART initiation SOP to close the treatment gap
- Slow TROA growth
- Slow scale up of MMD-3

High loss to follow-up

- Exacerbated by poor data capturing/ backlog leading to increasing LTFU
- Low uptake of VL testing in some provinces

Provincial Engagement

- Face to face provincial engagements has been a challenge

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2022 Goals and Targets – 1

By CQUIN's next annual meeting (end-2022):

90% of people on ART will be in less-intensive DSD treatment models

Plans for model mix:
- External Pick-Up Points (60%),
- Facility Pick Up Points (20%),
- Adherence Clubs (10%),
- Conventional/Standard Care Model (10%);

Moving to scale-up of 3-MMD

Demonstration of 6-MMD to inform the scale up

Plans to integrate TB/HIV services into less-intensive models

Plans to integrate NCDs services into less-intensive models

Plans to integrate family planning into less-intensive models

2022 Goals and Targets – 2

Plans for AHD services:

- Scale coverage of AHD training
- Optimize National AHD Implementation Plan

Plans for differentiated MCWH services:

- Complete the National MCWH evaluations & Disseminate findings
- Strengthen the mother and baby pair when followed up to ensure adherence and retention

Plans for differentiated KP services:

- Accelerate effective efficient implementation of targeted key population interventions to close gaps on service access, meaningful involvement of KPs groups, sensitizations and full decriminalization.
- Optimize Surveillance Systems & Population size estimation and mapping platforms to assist South Africa to identify the numbers of key Populations groups for effective programming.

Plans for impact assessment:

- Conduct the comprehensive review of AGL Policy - to optimize DSD for HIV & NCD integration; DSD for TB/HIV; DSD for MCH; DSD for Key Population; DSD for Men; DSD for AHD; DSD quality

What is the one *most important* DSD-related goal or target in your country's plans for 2022?

To conduct the DSD Performance reviews in all the provinces

Acknowledgements

- **Dr. Zukiswa Pinini** (Chief Director HIV/AIDS Cluster - MOH)
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- **Mr. Merlin Pillay** (CCMDD Programme Manager- MOH)
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- **Ms. Lauren De Kock** (Operation Phuthuma QI Lead - Aurum)
- **Ms. Regina Maithufi** (Deputy Director KP programme - MOH)
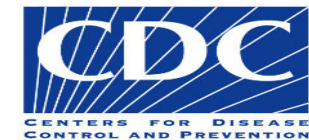- **CCMT Technical Working Group** (key Stakeholders)

Thank You!!!