Rwanda – Access to Generics

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Ballroom 2
Agenda

- Background
- Viral Hepatitis Program Structure in Rwanda
- Milestones in Viral Hepatitis Program
- Emphasis on High Quality Products on treatment
- Current challenges on affordability for health insurance with originator products
- Viral Hepatitis Program – Service Delivery to improve access to generics across the country
- Availability of Funds
Rwanda Background

- Population (2016): ~13 million
- Capital: Kigali
- Region: sub-Saharan Africa
- GDP per capita (2016): US$702
- Income level: low
- HIV/AIDS adult prevalence (2015): 2.9%
- People living with HIV/AIDS (2015): ~200,000

Burden of viral hepatitis in Rwanda is unclear due to a lack of epidemiological data.
Background

HBV Prevalence
- General population: not well known
- Rwanda Blood Transfusion Center (2000-2012): HBsAg between 1.9% and 3.2%
- Pregnant women in sentinel sites (2011): 3.5% HBsAg prevalence
- HCWs at CHUB(2015): 2.9% HBsAg prevalence
- PLHIV (2017): 4.3% HBsAg prevalence

HCV Prevalence
- General population: not well known
- Rwanda Blood Transfusion Center (2000-2012): HCVAb between 0.8% and 3.2%
- Pregnant women in sentinel sites (2011): 2.6% HCVAb prevalence
- PLHIV (2017): 4.7% HCVAb prevalence

WHO estimates. Prevalence for hepatitis in Rwanda= 4%
Viral Hepatitis Program Structure in Rwanda

- RBC
  - IHDPC
  - BIOS
    - HIV, AIDS, STIs & OBBI Division
      - HIV Prevention Unit
      - Epidemiological Surveillance and Research Unit
    - TB Division
      - HIV C&T Unit
      - OBBI & STIs Unit
    - ...

Milestones in Viral Hepatitis Program

- National TWG created
- Viral load testing introduced in 1st facility
- HCV Guidelines developed
- Screening in 2 facilities

2011
- Hepatitis unit created by GOR

2012
- National Policy adopted
- NOP developed
- First patient’s treated with SOF/Ribavirin

2013
- HCV Guidelines developed
- Screening in 13 sites
- SOF/LDV
- Standardized patient file

2015
- National Policy adopted
- NOP developed
- First patient’s treated with SOF/Ribavirin

2016
- Screening of PLHIV
- ELISA in 13 sites
- SOF/LDV
- Standardized patient file

2017
- massive screening and DAAs treatment
- 3280 patients treated (SOF/LDV & SOF/DCV)

Screening Site at Muhanga, Southern Province, June 2017
Emphasis on high quality products for patients

Updates

• Rwanda has been treating patients with Originators’ products in 2016 and 2017
  • Gilead and BMS (donation)
• Closely watching companies developing generics
• Aware that some companies producing generics have received WHO-PQ for SOF

Challenges

• To date, no combination drug (SOF/DCV or SOF/LDV) has WHO-PQ or US-FDA approval
• Once approved, pharmaceutical companies permitted to register generics
Current challenges on affordability

- Graphs compare prices for originator (current) and generic (anticipated) drugs in Rwanda and current generic prices in India.
- Patients currently accessing treatment through private insurance pay 15% Out Of Pocket Expenses (OOPE), or more than $100.
- For increased access and widespread cure, Rwanda aims for prices comparable to current prices in India with certified generics.
Viral Hepatitis Program – Service Delivery to improve access to generics across the country
### Availability of funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services for PLHIV with HBV/HCV co-infection</th>
<th>Co-funding GOR and partners</th>
<th>Funding specifically for HBV/HCV needed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coverage of personnel costs &amp; programmatic activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>GOR core funding</td>
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<tr>
<td>Screening and VL Testing</td>
<td>Treatment for HCV and HBV</td>
<td>Total</td>
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<td>$983,198</td>
<td>$6,989,256</td>
<td>$7,972,454</td>
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Rwanda spent almost 87% of FY 2016-17 in acquiring DAAs for HCV, it would have been different story had there been Pre-Qualified generics.
Conclusion

• Rwanda has been treating patients with Originators’ products in 2016 and 2017

• Aware that some companies producing generics have received WHO-PQ for SOF

• To date, no combination drug (SOF/DCV or SOF/LDV) has WHO-PQ or US-FDA approval

• Need to speed up the process of Pre-qualification for these generic combinations
Thank You & Questions