

Supplementary file I: Description of sustainability constructs and domains used in systematic review (Primary study outcomes)						
Domain	Sustainability construct	Outcome measure	Description	Criteria for assigning scores		
The Intervention Design and Delivery	Demonstrating effectiveness	Patient-related outcomes	Any numeric or subjective patient-centred outcomes to show effectiveness e.g. retention-in-care, viral suppression, loss-to-follow-up, patient satisfaction etc.	effectiveness measures were extracted from included articles e.g. retention in care, loss to follow up, viral		
	Evidence base for the intervention	Evidence base	Evidence that the intervention provides the expected benefits as planned i.e. that the DSD improve outcomes	3 = There is sufficient evidence that the intervention provides expected benefits to stakeholders	2 = There is some evidence that the intervention provides expected benefits to stakeholders	1 = There is little or no evidence that the intervention provides expected benefits to stakeholders
	Expertise	Expertise	Evidence of adequate expert knowledge and experience to carry out DSD especially by supporting organisation	3 = There is sufficient evidence that the supporting organization has adequate expert knowledge and experience to conduct intervention	2 = There is some evidence that the supporting organisation has adequate expert knowledge and experience to conduct intervention	1 = There is little or no evidence the supporting organisation has adequate expert knowledge and experience to conduct intervention
	Quality Improvement (QI) methods	QI methods	Evidence that QI methods i.e. using data to identify gaps which are continually improved, starting with a pilot and then spreading etc. are used to support intervention success and sustainability	3 = There is sufficient evidence of the use of QI methods to support the conduct of intervention	2 = There is some evidence of the use of QI methods to support the conduct of intervention	1 = There is little or no evidence of the use of QI methods to support the conduct of intervention to a little or no extent
	Monitoring progress	Monitoring progress	A standardized and systematic method to gather and report data during DSD intervention	3 = There is sufficient evidence of monitoring the intervention using standardised system to gather and report data over time	2 = There is some evidence of monitoring the intervention using standardised system to gather and report data over time	1 = There is little or no evidence of monitoring the intervention using standardised system to gather and report data over time
	Intervention duration	Duration	Evidence that the intervention will last beyond initial funding	3 = There is sufficient evidence the intervention will last for a long time beyond the initial project and funding	2 = There is some evidence the intervention will last for some time beyond the initial project and funding	1 = There is little or evidence the intervention will last beyond the initial project and funding
	Intervention type	Project Design	Evidence of a structured type of intervention is it e.g. prevention, treatment, palliative care, supportive care etc.	3 = The type and design of the project is clear (e.g. preventive, treatment, palliative care, supportive care etc.)	2 = The type and design of the project is clear to some extent (e.g. preventive, treatment, palliative care, supportive care etc.)	1 = The type and design of the project is clear to a little extent (e.g. preventive, treatment, palliative care, supportive care etc.)
	The problem	Problem awareness	General awareness of a problem among stakeholders that requires the DSD intervention to address	3 = The intervention is addressing a problem that is recognised and accepted as a real concern by all stakeholders i.e. community, staff, patients, supporting organisation, facility, government	2 = The intervention is addressing a problem that is recognised and accepted as a concern by some stakeholders i.e. mainly by the facility, patients, staff, supporting organization	1 = The intervention is addressing a problem that is not fully recognised and accepted as a concern by any stakeholders
	Training & Capacity building	Capacity building	Evidence of any orientation, training, on-going mentoring for staff delivering the DSD intervention	3 = There is sufficient evidence of orientation/training/ mentoring to new staff and on-going training to all staff to be able to deliver intervention successfully	2 = There is some evidence of orientation/training/ mentoring to new staff and to all staff to be able to deliver intervention successfully	1 = There is little or no evidence of orientation/training/ mentoring to staff to be able to deliver intervention successfully
The External Environment	Awareness and Raising the profile	Community awareness	Evidence of the larger community being aware of the DSD intervention and promoting its benefit	3 = There is sufficient evidence of effort to ensure that stakeholders e.g. the community are aware of the benefits of the intervention through media marketing e.g. patient pressure groups, community leaders	2 = There is some evidence of effort to ensure that stakeholders e.g. the community are aware of the benefits of the intervention through media marketing e.g. community leaders alone or patients or pressure groups	1 = Only PLHIV and lay workers in the community participating in the intervention are aware of the intervention
	Socioeconomic and political considerations	Political support	Evidence that the intervention has political support e.g. government engagement i.e. ministry of health, guidelines revision to include DSD requirement	3 = There is sufficient evidence the intervention has the full support of Government (involvement of the MOH, District/State/zonal health unit, institutions, Revision of guideline, inclusion in strategic plans etc.)	2 = There is evidence the intervention has some level of support of the Government (involvement of the MOH, District/State/zonal health unit, an institution, etc.)	1 = There is evidence the intervention has the support of at least the institution involved in implementation, a local NGO etc.
	Spread to other organizations	Spread	Evidence that the intervention or underlying concepts spread within participating organisation or to other locations	3 = There is sufficient evidence that the intervention or beneficial parts of it are spread within a facility or to other facilities in a community or district	2 = There is some evidence the intervention spread to a few other sites beyond the intervention facility	1 = There is evidence the intervention or beneficial parts of it are spread to at least other parts of a facility
	Urgency	Urgency	Evidence of an urgency to maintain intervention based on its relevance	3 = There is sufficient evidence of motivation or urgency to maintain the intervention or parts of it based on its perceived potential of supporting a relevant healthcare need.	2 = There is some evidence of motivation or urgency to maintain the intervention or parts of it based on its perceived potential of supporting a relevant healthcare need.	1 = There is little or no evidence of motivation or urgency to maintain the intervention or parts of it based on its perceived potential of supporting a relevant healthcare need.
Intervention processes	Accountability of roles and responsibilities	Roles & responsibilities	Evidence that roles & responsibilities of staff involved are spread out and clearly defined	3 = There is sufficient evidence that roles and responsibilities of all staff involved in the intervention is clear and evenly distributed so no staff is over-burdened	2 = There is some evidence that roles and responsibilities of staff involved in the intervention is clear and evenly distributed so no staff is over-burdened	1 = There is little or no evidence that roles and responsibilities of staff involved in the intervention are clear or evenly distributed
	Belief in the intervention	Belief in intervention	Evidence that staff think the intervention is a better way to do things	3 = There is sufficient evidence that majority of staff conducting the intervention believe the change is a better way of doing thing and will add value	2 = There is some evidence that staff conducting the intervention believe the change is a better way of doing thing and will add value	1 = There is little or no evidence that staff conducting the intervention believe the change is a better way of doing things
	Complexity	Complexity	Evidence that it is not difficult for staff to understand and conduct the intervention	3 = There is sufficient evidence that it is not hard to understand, conduct and maintain the intervention	2 = There is some evidence of some difficulty in understanding or conducting and maintaining the intervention	1 = There is evidence of moderate difficulty in understanding or conducting and maintaining the intervention
	Defining Aims and Shared Vision	Shared goal	Evidence of a shared aim and vision established with all stakeholders before commencing the intervention	3 = There is sufficient evidence of a shared aim and vision for the intervention existing among all major stakeholders including the community, government, partners, patients as well as goal revision when necessary	2 = There is some evidence of a shared aim and vision for the intervention existing among most stakeholders including the community, a local partners and patients.	1 = There is little or no evidence of a shared aim and vision for the intervention existing among stakeholders. Only the supporting partner developed a goal.
	Incentives	Incentives	Evidence that rewards or benefits derived from the intervention are considered enough motivation that drive stakeholders to engage and continue delivering intervention over time	3 = There is sufficient evidence of perceived benefit from the intervention by all stakeholders including community, supporting organisation, patients, staff and government	2 = There is some evidence of perceived benefit from the intervention by some stakeholders e.g. only supporting organisation or patients or staff	1 = There is little or no evidence of perceived benefit from the intervention by any stakeholder, maybe only the supporting organisation
	Job requirements	Job requirements	Evidence of revision of job requirement for key staff incorporating intervention tasks as part of key job descriptions	3 = There is sufficient evidence of revised job requirement for key staff in facilities which capture the roles and job functions introduced by the intervention e.g. revised job description, SOP, guidelines OR a revision in job requirement was not required	2 = There is some evidence of revised job requirement for key staff in facilities with new roles and job functions introduced by the intervention but no revised job descriptions, SOP	1 = There is little or no evidence of revised job requirement for the staff involved with implementing the intervention at the facilities
	Workload	Workload	Evidence that any additional workload introduced by the intervention is manageable and requiring no special effort to staff involved	3 = There is sufficient evidence that any additional workload introduced by the intervention is manageable and evenly divided among staff without requiring extra effort	2 = There is evidence that the additional workload introduced by the intervention is manageable to a some extent and evenly divided among staff	1 = There is little or no evidence that the additional workload introduced by the intervention is manageable to the staff involved
	General resources	Resources	Evidence that resources needed to manage and maintain the DSD intervention is available	3 = There is sufficient evidence that all/most resources required to conduct and maintain the intervention are available and adequate and provided by the government i.e. more government less external donor	2 = There is evidence that some resources required to conduct and maintain the intervention are available and adequate i.e. less government and more external donor	1 = There is evidence that little or none of the resources required to conduct and maintain the intervention are available and adequate i.e. mostly provided by external donor

Resources	Funding	Funding	Evidence that adequate funds are available to implement and strategic funds planned to sustain intervention i.e. DSD will be embedded and sustained	3 = There is sufficient evidence that adequate (all/most) funds required to implement and sustain the intervention are available and provided by government	2 = There is evidence that most of the funds required to implement and sustain the intervention are available e.g. less government funds and more external donor funds	1 = There is evidence that little or none of the funds required to implement and sustain the intervention are available e.g. mostly provided by external donor funds
	Infrastructure	Infrastructure	Evidence that resources required to support intervention e.g. office space, materials, and supplies are available	3 = There is sufficient evidence that all/most of the resources required to support the intervention such as buildings, office space, materials and supplies are available and provided by the government	2 = There is evidence that the resources required to support the intervention such as buildings, office space, materials and supplies are available i.e. less government support and more external donor support	1 = There is evidence that the resources required to support the intervention such as buildings, office space, materials and supplies are available and mostly paid by external funder
	Staff	Staff	Evidence of sufficient staff in place to conduct and sustain DSD intervention	3 = There is sufficient evidence of sufficient number of staff, internal and external (i.e. a team) in place to implement and sustain the intervention employed by the government	2 = There is evidence that the number of internal staff in place to implement and sustain the intervention is mostly adequate i.e. the cadre of staff needed is employed by government but paid with external donor funds	1 = There is evidence that the number of internal staff in place to implement and sustain the intervention is somewhat adequate i.e. project staff are mainly employed and paid by external funder
	Time	Time	Evidence that adequate time was dedicated for DSD intervention in the routine daily schedule of the facility	3 = There is sufficient evidence that adequate time was dedicated to the intervention activities in the routine daily schedule of the facility	2 = There is evidence that time was dedicated to some of the intervention activities in the routine daily schedule of the facility	1 = There is evidence that time was dedicated to little or none of the intervention activities in the routine daily schedule of the facility i.e. project activities run within the facility but parallel to routine facility activities
Organizational setting	Integration with existing programs and policies	Integration	Evidence that DSD intervention was embedded within the existing organizational structure, Programme and policies	3 = There is sufficient evidence that the intervention was embedded within the existing organizational structures, programmes and policies of the health system and the facility	2 = There is evidence that the intervention was embedded to some extent within the existing organizational structures, programmes and policies of the facility	1 = There is evidence that the intervention was embedded to a little extent within the existing organizational structures, programmes and policies of the facility
	Intervention adaptation and receptivity	Adaptation	Evidence that the DSD intervention is flexible to respond, change, adapt and fit with local context requirement	3 = There is sufficient evidence that the intervention responds to changes and adapts to fit with local context and requirements	2 = There is some evidence that the intervention responds to changes and adapts to fit with local context and requirements	1 = There is little or no evidence that the intervention responds to changes and adapts to fit with local context and requirements
	Opposition	No opposition	Evidence of any resistance due to other competing interests from stakeholders reported	3 = There is sufficient evidence of no resistance from stakeholders to the intervention due to other competing priorities	2 = There is evidence of some resistance from stakeholders to the intervention due to other competing priorities	1 = There is evidence of resistance to a large extent from stakeholders to the intervention
	Organizational readiness and capacity	Readiness	Evidence that health facilities have adequate capacity and readiness to undertake the intervention i.e. in terms of materials and manpower	3 = There is sufficient evidence of adequate capacity and readiness of facilities to conduct the intervention i.e. all materials and staff needed are provided by government	2 = There is some evidence of capacity and readiness of facilities to conduct the intervention i.e. most materials and staff needed are provided by government with support from external funder	1 = There is evidence that capacity and readiness of facilities to conduct the intervention is limited i.e. all/most materials and staff needed are provided by external funder
	Organizational values and culture	Values system	Evidence that the values of the intervention align with health system values, prevailing beliefs and culture and priorities	3 = There is sufficient evidence that the health system and facility values, prevailing beliefs and culture and priorities support the sustainability and strategic direction of the intervention e.g. inclusion in strategic plan or guideline	2 = There is some evidence that the health system and facility values, prevailing beliefs and culture and priorities support the sustainability and strategic direction of the intervention e.g. some government involvement with little commitment	1 = There is little or no evidence that the health system and facility values, prevailing beliefs and culture and priorities support the sustainability and strategic direction of the intervention
	Support available	Management support	Evidence of management support for the delivery and maintenance of intervention	3 = There is sufficient evidence of management total support of the intervention in the form of reminders, staff, technical and education to enhance delivery	2 = There is some evidence of management support of the intervention to a large extent in the form of reminders, staff, technical and education to enhance delivery i.e. in principle but it is non-committal	1 = There is little or no evidence of management support of the intervention
				2 = There is some evidence of an influential person (champion) and group of people (patient pressure group) who have the ability and skills to advocate, communicate and support the intervention e.g. a prominent community leader, a PLHIV group, NGO	2 = There is some evidence of an influential person (champion) and group of people (patient pressure group) who have the ability and skills to advocate, communicate and support the intervention e.g. expert patients living openly with their status	1 = There is little or no evidence of an influential patient, or group of people who have the ability and skills to advocate, communicate and support other patients at the facility level during the intervention.
The people involved	Leadership and Champions	Champions	Evidence of any influential person or group who advocates and supports the intervention	3 = There is sufficient evidence that the government, facilities, communities and other stakeholders take ownership and responsibility to support the intervention	2 = There is some evidence that the facilities and other stakeholders i.e. the community or any local partner take ownership and responsibility to support the intervention	1 = There is little or no evidence that any stakeholder take ownership and responsibility to support the intervention maybe just the facilities
	Ownership	Ownership	Evidence that stakeholders take ownership to support, embed and sustain the intervention	3 = There is sufficient evidence of the ability of stakeholders to use their power to make decisions, advocate and support initiative	2 = There is some evidence that stakeholders have the ability to use their power to make decisions, advocate and support initiative	1 = There is little or no evidence of the ability of stakeholders to use their power to make decisions, advocate and support initiative
	Power	Power	Evidence that stakeholders have the ability to use their power to make decisions, advocate and support the intervention	3 = There is sufficient evidence of partnerships, collaborations and networks to support and sustain the intervention e.g. with government and other local stakeholders, patient groups etc.	2 = There is evidence of some level of partnerships, collaborations and networks to support and sustain the intervention e.g. with some local stakeholders	1 = There is little or no evidence of partnerships, collaborations and networks to support and sustain the intervention e.g. with the facility or institution (s)
	Relationships and collaboration and networks	Collaboration	Evidence of any collaborations, partnerships and support networks to promote and sustain the intervention	3 = There is sufficient evidence of acceptance, enjoyment and reward among stakeholders from participating in intervention e.g. Government, local partners, staff, patients etc.	2 = There is some evidence of acceptance, enjoyment and reward among stakeholders from participating in intervention e.g. Among direct beneficiaries staff and patients	1 = There is little or no evidence of acceptance, enjoyment and reward among any stakeholder participating in intervention
	Satisfaction	Satisfaction	Evidence of benefits and rewards enjoyed by stakeholders and staff for participation in intervention reported	3 = There is sufficient evidence of the involvement and participation of stakeholders who are affected by the intervention e.g. Government, community, staff, patients	2 = There is evidence of some level of involvement and participation of stakeholders who are affected by the intervention e.g. staff, patients	1 = There is little or no evidence of the involvement and participation of stakeholders who are affected by the intervention e.g. patients
	Stakeholder participation	Stakeholder participation	Evidence that key stakeholders (those affected by the intervention) are engaged and participate in the intervention	3 = There is sufficient evidence of the participation of community members to direct and shape the intervention to reflect their values, expectations and needs e.g. involving community groups and leaders	2 = There is evidence of some level of participation of community members to direct and shape the intervention to reflect their values, expectations and needs involving community groups e.g. involving lay workers from the community	1 = There is little or no evidence of participation of community members to direct and shape the intervention to reflect their values, expectations and needs involving community groups e.g. community only involved as passive recipients
	Community participation	Community participation	Evidence of the participation of community members in directing and shaping the intervention goals and approaches to reflect their values and needs	3 = There is sufficient evidence of the involvement of patients in the intervention's processes, to understand patient's perspective i.e. in the design and process	2 = There is evidence of some level of involvement of patients in the intervention's processes, to understand patient's perspective e.g. adapting the process	1 = There is little or no evidence of the involvement of patients in the intervention's processes e.g. only as passive participants
	Patient involvement	Patient involvement	Evidence of the involvement of patients in the intervention processes to understand patient's perspectives, values and needs	3 = There is sufficient evidence of the involvement of staff in the planning, design, delivery and maintenance of the intervention	2 = There is evidence of some level of involvement of staff in the planning, design, delivery and maintenance of the intervention	1 = There is evidence of involvement of staff in the delivery and maintenance of the intervention
	Staff involvement	Staff involvement	Evidence of the involvement of staff in the planning, design, delivery of the intervention			

Author, Year, Journal	Title of publication	HIV project/Study site, Town, Country	Setting	Project ownership and Funding	Year of commencement of Intervention	Who is the Target population/ Intervention group	Comparison group/Intervention group/historical (if any)	Definition of "Stable" patient (see also Supp. File 4)	Number of participants (stable)	Number of participants (comparison)	DSO Model	Brief description of intervention	Level of implementation (number of sites)	Study aim	Study variables definitions	Primary care provider in intervention	Primary care provider in standard of care (SOC)	Provider in intervention funded by	Provider in SOC funded by	Study design	Outcomes - VL (%) SOC	Outcomes - VL (%) DSD	Outcome - VL (rate) SOC	Outcome - VL (rate) DSD	Outcome - VL - % rebound SOC
Bongo F., 2016 (9)	Adherence clubs for long-term provision of antiretroviral therapy: cost-effectiveness and access analysis from Khayelitsha, South Africa.	Uthuntu clinic, Khayelitsha, Cape Town, South Africa.	Peri-urban	MSF & Western Cape Dept of Health	2007	Stable patients in AC	Stable patients in Standard of Care (SOC)	≥ 18 yrs; ART≥18 months; last CD4 >200cells/ml; viral suppression (2 consecutive <400copies/ml not <8 months old; no ongoing drug side effect; no ongoing opportunistic infection (OI)	932	5362	Adherence clubs (AC)	Group of 15-30 people. Lay worker led. Symptoms screening and basic health education at every meeting. 2-monthly drug pick-up of pre-packaged ART. Annual clinical consultation and blood draw for CD4, viral load, creatinine. 6-monthly drug scripting. On the same ART regimen12 months. Treatment buddy allowed at alternate club meetings.	1 clinic	From a provider's perspective, (i) to assess the cost effectiveness of clubs in comparison with Standard of care and (ii) to present perceived accessibility differences associated with each model of care.	Viral suppression - two consecutive viral loads <400 copies/ml with the most recent not being older than 6 months;	lay health worker	nurse	wcdoh-gf	wcdoh	Cost effectiveness analysis (CEA) and access analysis (AA)	97.2	99.06	2.84	0.94	
Rebokos C., 2017 (20)	Six-monthly appointment spacing for clinic visits as a model for retention in HIV Care in Conakry-Guinea: a cohort study	Matam out-patient clinic, Conakry, Guinea	Urban	MSF & Ministry of Health Guinea	2013	Stable patients in SMA	Stable patients in Standard of care (SOC)	≥15 years; current VL <1000 copies/mL; non-pregnant; no opportunistic infection (OI) between the 1st January 2014 and 31st December 2014.	1166	791	Six-monthly appointment (SMA)	Clinical 6-monthly appointments scheduled by nurses and every 6 months for drug refill instead of every 1-2 months for patients in regular ART care. Patients outside Conakry get 6-monthly refills while patients within Conakry get 3-monthly refills with a Pharmacy only refill visit between the 6-monthly clinical visits.	1 site	Report a 6-monthly appointment for clinic and drug refill adopted locally as Rendekousa de Sa Masi (RSM) for stable HIV patients receiving ART, as a decongestion scheme to relieve pressure on an overstretched referral Centre of Matam in Conakry and to improve retention in care during the Ebola outbreak	LTU - no contact for 90 days or more after the last missed appointment for ARV refills; Retention in care - the proportion of patients alive and known to be still receiving ART at the time of the study.	lay health worker	doctor/nurse	MSF	MOH, MSF	Comparative Cohort study					
Beemloms M., 2014 (21)	Providing universal access to antiretroviral therapy in Thyolo, Malawi through task shifting and decentralization of HIV/AIDS care.	Chiradzulu, Malawi; Phoyelitcha, South Africa; KwaZulu, KwaZulu, Mozambique	Rural	MSF & Ministry of Health Malawi	2008	Stable patients in SMA		Adult (≥15 years); on 1st line ART ≥12 months; W/CD4 count ≥300; without OI/side effects; pregnancy or breastfeeding	4523		SMA	6-monthly clinical consultation; 3-monthly ART refill by Health Surveillance officers (HSAs); yearly VL	Chiradzulu District Hospital and 10 health centres	Describe a number of community-supported models of ART delivery developed by Medecine Sans Frontieres (MSF) together with Ministries of Health (MoH) in public health facilities in sub-Saharan Africa		Health Surveillance officers	doctor/nurse	MSF and Government	MSF and Government	Retrospective cohort study					
Roehner AF., 2019 (22)	The rollout of Community ART Refill Groups in Zimbabwe: a qualitative evaluation.	10 facilities - 2 rural hospitals, 6 rural clinics & 2 urban clinics in 5 provinces of Zimbabwe	Rural & Urban	MOHCC Zimbabwe; CDC, and 1 TECH	2018	Stable patients in CARG		≥ 6 months on ART, a viral load <1000 copies/mL; CD4 >200 cells/mm3 when viral loads are unavailable; and no active opportunistic infections. Pregnant or breastfeeding women are also excluded.	76		CARG	4 to 12 clients per group; 3-monthly ART refill; annual clinical consultation and viral load assessment. CARG members usually visit the clinic together on the same day.	10 - 2 rural hospitals, 6 rural and 2 urban clinics	Evaluate the perceived effects of the CARG model for both HCWs and ART clients.		Peer	MOHCC/PEPFAR		A qualitative evaluation						
Rock P., 2019	Retention in care and factors critical for effectively implementing antiretroviral adherence clubs in a rural district in South Africa.	1 PHC and 3 CAC in Cape Winelands district, South Africa	Rural	WCCOCH PEPFAR	2014	Stable patients in AC	Stable patients in Standard of care (SOC)	Adult ≥18 years; on current ART regime ≥6 months; Most recent (taken in past 6 months) viral load <400 copies/mL; ART adherence ≥90%; consent to participate in CAC	202	263	AC	Nurse and CHW led group; 2 monthly pre-packed ART refill; group counselling; brief symptoms check; 60 mins; annual blood drawing and clinical consultation	1 PHC & 3 CAC	Determine clinical outcomes among ART clients attending adherence clubs and client experiences and healthcare worker perceptions of factors key to successful adherence club implementation in the Cape Winelands District, South Africa.	LTU - 3 months late for a scheduled pharmacy refill; Clients who transfer to another clinic without informing the clinic staff (silent transfer) without a treatment interruption > 3 months were defined as TFO. Silent transfers who had a treatment interruption > 3 months were documented LTU. Viral load (VL) suppression was defined as one VL result < 400 copies/ml	Nurse, CHW	doctor/nurse	MOH/PEPFAR	MOH/PEPFAR	A retrospective cohort analysis	87.3, 91.0, 76.9	100, 90.3, 97.0			
Brennan A., 2011 (24)	Outcomes of stable HIV-positive patients down-referred from a doctor-managed antiretroviral therapy clinic to a nurse-managed primary health clinic for monitoring and treatment.	Themba Lethu Clinic/Crosby Clinic, Johannesburg, South Africa	Urban	Rights to care (NGO), USAID, Gushungu, NDOH	2007	stable/ndr	stable/ndr	≥ 18 yrs; on ART ≥11 months; no OI; CD4 >200 cells/mm3; a stable weight; virally suppressed in 2 consecutive VL <400 copies/mL	693	2079	DR	2 monthly drug pick-up; Nurse consultation at every visit. Viral load (VL) at 4th and 10th month and then 6 months, whilst at every visit	1 Hospital - TLC, 1 PHC - Crosby	Compare one-year treatment outcomes amongst individuals down-referred for treatment maintenance at a nurse-managed PHC to patients eligible for down-referral who remained at the doctor-managed treatment-referral site	Loss to follow-up - at least 3 months late for the last scheduled visit; Viral load rebound was defined as having a detectable viral load >400 copies/mL at 12 months after down-referral eligibility	nurse	doctor	USAID, Government	SANDH (Government)	Comparative Cohort study					5.6
Decroo T., 2011 (25)	Distribution of Antiretroviral Treatment Through Self-forming Groups of Patients in Tete Province, Mozambique	12 facilities in 6 districts of Tete Province, Mozambique	Rural	MSF & Tete Provincial authorities	2008	stable/ndr	stable/ndr	on ART ≥6 months; CD4≥200 cells/mm3 in the last 3 months; with no clinical stage I or IV conditions; on 1st line regimen; weight > 25kg	1384		CAG	Self-formed groups of up to 6 stable ART patients with a group leader. Monthly meetings to monitor adherence by pill count and to offer mutual support on daily issues. On a rotational basis every month, a group representative visits the nearest facility for medical consultation, to report on the health and the adherence status of fellow group members and to collect medicines for the group. In the community, (s/he) distributes the drugs to group members. Every member has contact with the health centre every 6 months. Group members could still visit the health centre at any other time, for any reason if required. 6-monthly group session is organised for all CAG at the facility or in the community	12 facilities; 291 CAGs	Describe the implementation of the community ART group (CAG) model and report preliminary outcomes	Peer	Doctors and Nurse	MSF	Government	Observational cohort study						
Decroo T., 2014 (26)	Four-year retention and risk factors for attrition among members of community ART groups in Tete, Mozambique.	Peri-urban, district and rural clinics in Tete Province, Mozambique	Rural	MSF & Tete Provincial authorities	2008	stable/ndr	stable/ndr	CD4 count <200cells/mm3 on ART <6months; with no clinical complication	5729		CAG	Same as MS (see MS)	1391 CAG; 840 patients; 289 urban, 389 district and 162 rural	Analyse long-term retention in CAG, estimate individual- and CAG-level risk factors associated with attrition and describe the circumstances in which CAG members died.	LTU - more than 2 months late for the last appointment or date for refill. Return to individual/routine care was defined as the exit of a member from a CAG and the return to normal individual routine care, on the initiative of the patient or the clinician	Peer	Doctors and Nurse	MSF	Government	Retrospective programme evaluation					
De Jager GA., 2018 (27)	Patient satisfaction and treatment adherence of stable human immunodeficiency virus-positive patients in antiretroviral adherence clubs and clinics.	14 PHCs in Eden district, Western Cape, South Africa	Rural	WCCOCH	2013	Stable patients in AC	stable/ndr	Adult patient ≥18 yrs who is infected with HIV; on ART ≥12 months and has two recent consecutive viral loads undetectable (<400 copies/ml)	98	222	AC	A group of 15 to 30 patients that meet every two months and is facilitated by a non-clinical staff member who provides a basic health assessment, referral where necessary, peer support and distribution of pre-packed ART	14 PHCs - 7 with AC, 7 without AC	Investigate treatment adherence and patient satisfaction of stable patients living with HIV on ART in ART adherence clubs and clinics	Patient satisfaction was the extent to which the health care experience matches the patient's expectations of health care. It is measured by using the Patient Satisfaction with ART services questionnaire by Wouters and colleagues (2008:210)	LHCW	doctor/nurse	Wcdoh	Wcdoh	Analytical cross-sectional study					
Fox MP., 2019 (28) AC	Adherence clubs and decentralized medication delivery to support patient retention and sustained viral suppression in care: Results from a cluster-randomized evaluation of differentiated ART delivery models in South Africa.	24 PHCs in 4 provinces (Gauteng, North West, Limpopo, and KwaZulu Natal), South Africa	Rural & Urban	NDOH	2015-2018	Stable patients in AC	Stable patients in Standard of care (SOC)	18 years old who were resident in the facility's catchment area; no documented plan to transfer facilities; not pregnant on the same ART regimen > 12 months; most recent VL in the past 3 months, and 2 consecutive undetectable viral loads (<400 copies/mL)	275	294	AC	ACs up to 30 stable ART patients, meet at facilities or community locations every 2 to 3 months to receive group counselling, brief symptom screen, and receive prepackaged medications managed by staff and nurses at the facility with support from CHW.	24 PHC	Evaluate retention and viral suppression in AC and DMD compared with standard clinic-based care	Sustained viral suppression - (<400 copies/mL) at 12 months after eligibility for AC or DMD; retention in care at 12 months after eligibility for ACs or DMD = 100% - % attrition, with attrition as the sum of reported deaths, loss to follow-up and transfers; Loss to follow-up - failure to attend the clinic within 90 days of a scheduled appointment.	Nurse, CHW/Lay staff	doctor/nurse	NDOH	NDOH	Unblinded cluster-randomized evaluation for AC	79.6	80			
Fox DMD				NDOH	2015-2018	Stable patients in Home delivery (HD)	Stable patients in Standard of care (SOC)		232	346	Decentralized medication delivery (DMD)	DMD - prepackaging and distribution of medications to PHCs or HDNHSs; Patients only need to come to the clinic on a 6-monthly basis for a clinical exam and rescripting.	24 PHC			Nurse, CHW/Lay staff	doctor/nurse	NDOH	NDOH	Observational study for DMD	74.3	77.2			
Geldsetzer P., 2018 (29)	Community delivery of antiretroviral drugs in a non-infertility cluster: Randomized pragmatic trial in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.	18, 16 and 14 facilities in Pemba, Kiondoini and Idara municipalities, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania	Urban	MOH (NGO), Harari, MwanGCEC	2016	Stable patients in Home delivery (HD)	Stable patients in Standard of Care (SOC)	≥18 years; (i) accessing ART care at one of the participating healthcare facilities; residing in a neighborhood in the facility's catchment area (self-report); (ii) on ART ≥6 months prior to study enrolment; (iii) CD4 >350 cells/mm3; or a suppressed viral load (VL) ≥6 months after ART initiation (iv) the most recent VL <12 months prior to study enrolment and shows virological suppression	516 (1,563)	1,009	HD	Home-based care (HBC) visit stable patients at home or another meeting point in the community close to their homes or workplace, monthly or 2-monthly delivers ARVs, counselling and pill count	48 (24 per arm)	Determine whether an ARV community delivery model (for health workers deliver ARVs to the homes of patients who are clinically stable on ART) and nurses and physicians deliver standard facility-based care for patients who are clinically unstable on ART leads to a lower or equal (non-inferior) risk of virological failure compared to the standard of care (standard facility-based care for all ART patients).	Proportion of patients with virological failure at the end of study period. Virological failure was defined as a VL >1,000 copies/mL. The pre-specified secondary endpoint was patient healthcare expenditures in the 6 months preceding study exit.	HBCs, Doctors, Nurses	Doctors and nurse	Dar es Salaam's municipalities, MOH	Government	Cluster randomized trial					10.9
Grimwood A., 2014 (7)	Outcomes of a nurse-managed service for stable HIV-positive patients in a large South African public sector antiretroviral therapy programme.	Community Health Centre (CHC) Gugulethu, Cape Town, South Africa	Peri-urban	WCCOCH	2006	stable/ndr	stable/ndr	on ART ≥16 weeks; most recent VL <50 copies/mL; no active OI or poorly controlled chronic conditions; on a 1st-line ART regimen (2 NRTI + 1 NRTI); good adherence by pill count	2341	3405	DR	Down-referred patients were diagnosed 2 months of ART rather than 1-2 months of ART for treatment initiation site patients. CD4 and VL were monitored every 16 weeks at both sites. Scheduled to return every 4 months to see a nurse for clinical care and a counsellor for adherence support and every 2 months to the pharmacy for ART collection.	1 site CHC - Gugulethu, 1 down referral site	Compare a nurse-managed, decentralized model of care for stable ART patients with a doctor-managed ART clinic for patients receiving ART in primary care in Cape Town, South Africa	LTU - no contact between analysis and database closure and the last date of contact was assigned as the outcome date (Grimwood et al. 2013). Virologic failure was defined as a single viral load >1000 copies/ml among patients who had a viral load below 1000 copies/ml after 4 months on ART	nurse	doctor	Government, Desmond Tutu, Stopgap program	Comparative Cohort study	62.7	89.8	11.3	8.1		

Grimsrud A., 2015 (30)	Implementation of community-based adherence clubs for stable antiretroviral therapy patients in Cape Town, South Africa.	Hannan Crusat Treatment Centre (HCTC), CAC	urban	WCCDH, Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation, Stophisa programme	May-12	Stable patients in AC		Adherent, on the same ART regimen > 12 mths, had 2 consecutive undetectable VL <400 copies/ml, and no other medical conditions requiring more frequent follow-up.	2113		CAC	Groups of 25-30 patients, 2-monthly meeting, group counselling, brief symptoms check, ART pick-up - 60 min, annual blood drawing and clinical consultation	1 site - HCTC and 74 CACs	Describe the implementation, early outcomes and lessons learned from the Community Adherence Clubs (CACs) given the limited evidence base for community-based models	LTU - having no contact at a CAC or the CHC in the first 12 weeks of 2014. For patients defaulting as LTU, the date of last contact was the LTU date. Viral rebound - having a single viral load measure of >1000 copies/ml after suppression	by health worker	doctor/nurse	Government, Desmond Tutu, Stophisa programme	Government	Descriptive study							
Grimsrud A., 2016 (31)	Community-Based Adherence Clubs for the Management of Stable Antiretroviral Therapy Patients in Cape Town, South Africa: A Cohort Study.	Community Health Centre (CHC) Gugulethu, Cape Town, South Africa	urban	WCCDH	Jun-12	Stable patients in AC	Stable patients in Standard of care (SOC)	Self-reported adherence to ART, on ART > 12 mths, 2 consecutive suppressed VL < 400 copies/ml, and no active opportunistic infections.	2113	6037	CAC	community-based, CHW-led and nurse-supported, groups of 25 to 30 patients, meets every 2 months for group counselling, a brief symptom screening, and distribution of prepackaged ART. CAC patients could send a patient-nominated treatment supporter or "buddy" to collect their ART at alternating CAC visits.	1 site	Describes outcome loss to follow up (LTU) and viral rebound over the first 18 months of CAC implementation in Cape Town, South Africa and compares patient outcomes under the CAC model of care to those of patients managed in facility-based primary care	LTU - having no visit in the first 12 weeks of 2014, and patients were censored at the date of last contact with either health care service. Viral rebound - single viral load measurement >1000 copies per milliliter after previous suppression (<1000 copies/ml)	by health worker	doctor/nurse	Government	Government	Comparative Cohort study	44.3	83.4					
Hannahan CF., 2018 (32)	The impact of community versus clinic-based adherence clubs on loss from care and viral suppression for antiretroviral therapy patients: Findings from a pragmatic randomised controlled trial in South Africa.	Witsgaten Health and Welfare Centre Johannesburg, South Africa	Urban	NDOH	2014-2017	Stable patients in AC (community)	Stable patients in AC (clinic)	>18 yrs, same ART regimen >12 months, virally suppressed > 12 months (2 most recent VL results were <400 copies/ml), not pregnant, no comorbidity, HIV +ve, CHW with more than 1 antiretroviral drug	399	376	AC	Groups of 25 - 30 patients, led by a lay HIV counsellor, met every other month, weighed and screened for current TB, annual consultation, 6 mth blood draws, AC held in a space within clinic, CAC held within area of residence e.g. church, corner centres	1 clinic and 24 clubs	Compare effectiveness of community- versus clinic-based adherence clubs with respect to loss from club-based care and viral suppression	Primary outcome - loss from club-based care, defined as referral to clinic-based standard care for any reason. Secondary - % voluntarily those to return to clinic care or with medical contraindication for clubcare or death; % reengage clinic care within 90 days	Lay HIV counsellor	Lay HIV counsellor	NDOH/PEPFAR	NDOH/PEPFAR	pragmatic, open-label, parallel/randomised controlled trial							
Long L., 2011 (33)	Treatment Outcomes and Cost-Effectiveness of Shifting Management of Stable ART Patients to Nurses in South Africa: An Observational Cohort	Themba Lethu Clinic/Croady Clinic, Johannesburg, South Africa	urban	Right to care (NGO), USAID, Gushungu, NDOH	2008	stable/ndr	stable/ndr	> 18 yrs, on ART > 11 months; no OIs, a CD4 > 200 cells/mm3, a stable weight (i.e. < 5% weight loss in last 3 visits); virally suppressed (i.e. < 400 copies/ml) in the last 10 months	712	2136	DR	2 monthly drug pick-up, nurse consultation at every visit, VL 4th month, 10th month then 6-monthly, symptoms screening and vitals at every visit	1 Hospital - TLC, 1 PHC - Crosby	Evaluate the implications of this down-referral strategy for treatment outcomes and costs	Lost to follow-up - > 3 months late for last scheduled consultation or medication pickup; Viral suppression - viral load < 400 copies/ml in months 9-15	nurse	doctor	USAID, Government	SANDH (Government)	Quasi-experimental						4.3	
Lique-Fernandez MA., 2013 (34)	Effectiveness of Patient Adherence Groups as a Model of Care for Stable Patients on Antiretroviral Therapy in Khayelitsha, Cape Town, South Africa	Ushurini clinic, Khayelitsha, Cape Town, South Africa	urban	WCCDH, MSF	2007	Stable patients in AC	Stable patients in Standard of care (SOC)	> 18 yrs, ART > 18 months at pilot start and during the study period, CD4 > 200 cells/mm3, sustained viral suppression	502	2327	AC	1 clinic; 20 clubs	Evaluate the effectiveness of adherence clubs compared to traditional clinic-based care in maintaining or improving long-term retention in care and virologic suppression	Lost To Follow up (LTU) - not having any contact with the service in the 6 months following the analysis closure (between February 28th and August 31st 2013). Virologic suppression - having viral load < 400 copies/ml. Virologic rebound - time to the first virologic rebound i.e. viral load > 400 copies/ml	by health care worker (HCW)	nurse	MSF initially, then Government	Government	Retrospective cohort evaluation			90.4	31.8				
Mantell JE., 2019 (35)	Engaging men in HIV programmes: a qualitative study of male engagement in community-based antiretroviral refill groups in Zimbabwe	3 clinics in 2 rural districts in Mashonaland Central and Mashonaland West Provinces, Zimbabwe	Rural	MHCOC and partners	2014-2017	Stable patients in CARG		No definition given	147		CARG	3 Clinics	Self-formed groups of 4-12 stable ART clients living in the same community. A CARG member visits the clinic monthly and collects 3 months of ARV for all group members; screening each other for TB and OI. Annual VL & 6 clinic consultation together	Identify facilitators and barriers to CARG participation by only positive men, with inputs from recipients of HIV care, community members, HCWs, donors and policy makers	Peer		MoH/C/BMG		An exploratory qualitative study								
Mudavanhu M., 2019 (36)	Perceptions of Community and Clinic-Based Adherence Clubs for Patients Stable on Antiretroviral Treatment: A Mixed Methods Study	Witsgaten Health and Welfare Centre Johannesburg, South Africa	Urban	NDOH	2014-2017	Stable patients in AC (community)	Stable patients in AC (clinic)	Virally suppressed, on ART for > 1 year, free of comorbidities	277	291	AC	1 Clinic	Groups of 25 - 30 patients, led by a lay HIV counsellor, met every other month, weighed and screened for current TB, annual consultation, 6 mth blood draws, CAC held in a space within clinic, CAC held within area of residence e.g. church, corner centres	Explore patient acceptability and attitude towards community and clinic-based adherence clubs	Lay HIV counsellor	Lay HIV counsellor	NDOH/PEPFAR	NDOH/PEPFAR	A mixed methods study								
Mukumbi G FC., 2018 (37)	"Patients Are Not Following the Adherence Club Rules Anymore": A Realist Case Study of the Antiretroviral Treatment Adherence Clubs, South Africa	Western Cape District Hospitals (WCCDH), South Africa	urban	weight-loss: cact-doh-mul-bu	2011	Stable patients in AC		No definition given	60		AC	2 adherence clubs	25-30 people, bi-monthly meeting, consultations, health talks, group and individual adherence counselling sessions, and medication collections and ensures a conducive environment for social support	Test the hypothesis (the initial program theory) of the adherence club with the goal of validating, rejecting, or modifying the initial program theory. To obtain a refined program theory of the adherence club intervention based on the operation of the intervention in the identified primary health care facility	by health worker		Government		Realist evaluation (Case study)					96.7			
Mukumbi G FC., 2019 SAHIV VM (38)	At this adherence club, we are a family now": a realist theory-testing case study of the antiretroviral treatment adherence club, South Africa	2 Provincial PHC in Western Cape province, South Africa	Urban	WCCDH	2014-2017	Stable patients in AC		Adults (18+ years), treatment-experienced patients on 1st-line treatment with a good clinic attendance record and evidence of medication adherence.	72		AC	1 Clinic and 2 clubs	Groups of 25-35 stable patients who meet every 2 months at the facility for quick group consultations, convenient medication pickup and direct access to a clinician if necessary	Test a theory on how and why the adherence club intervention works and in what health system context(s) in a primary healthcare facility in the Western Cape Province	Not retained in care - not attending a club session or sent a 'buddy' and were sent back to the clinic. VL was used as a proxy indicator of adherence to medication. Non-adherence - any reading > 400 copies/cm3 and adherence - undetectable VL	Nurse, CHW/LA y staff		WCCDH	Retrospective cohort analysis and an exploratory qualitative approach			94.4	83.3				
Mukumbi G FC., 2019 PloS1 (39)	Unravelling how and why the Antiretroviral Adherence Club Intervention works (or not) in a public health facility: a realist exploratory theory-building case study	2 PHC in Mitchell's Plain, Cape Town, South Africa	Urban	WCCDH	2012-2016	Stable patients in AC		adult (18+ years) clinically 'stable' patients with evidence of good clinic attendance, have viral loads reading at 'lower than detectable' (LTD)	86		AC	1 Clinic and 2 clubs	Groups of 25-35 stable patients who meet every 2 months at the facility for quick group consultations, convenient medication pickup and direct access to a clinician if necessary	Unravel the mechanisms explaining how, why, for whom and in what circumstances the adherence club programme works at a community health centre in Cape Town	Retention in care - the date at which patients dropped out of club care; rate at which patients failed to maintain viral loads lower than detectable (<400 copies/mL)	Nurse, CHW/LA y staff		WCCDH	Retrospective cohort analysis and an exploratory qualitative approach					94.2			
Paspamira L., 2019 (40) (CAG)	16 Primary care centres in Shiselweni region, Swaziland			Swaziland MOH, MSF	2015	Stable patients in CAG		>16 years, weight > 45 kg, CD4 > 350 cells/mm3, on ART > 12 months and virologically suppressed	131		CAG	16 PHC	Maximum of 6 patients who alternated attending the PHC for consultation and pick up of drugs for the other group members, thus a patient visiting the clinic for consultation twice in a year	Compare retention in care model and retention on ART among three care models i.e. CAG, Outreach and Treatment clubs and to determine factors associated with all-cause attrition	LTU - patients without recorded visit for 120 days or more before database closure	Patients		MOH/Stakeholders									
Paspamira Outreach	Rapid Implementation of Combination ART Refill Models in Rural Swaziland WHO advocates for differentiated HIV care.			Swaziland MOH, MSF	2015	stable/ndr		>16 years, weight > 45 kg, CD4 > 350 cells/mm3, on ART > 12 months and virologically suppressed	98		DR	1 PHC and 1 Secondary facility	ART refill was integrated into existing mobile clinic outreach providing antiretroviral, child welfare and HIV testing services to remote communities			HCW		MOH/Stakeholders	Program evaluation (Retrospective analysis)								
Paspamira AC	1 large health centre		Rural	Swaziland MOH, MSF	2015	Stable patients in AC		30 patients who met every three months at a health facility for one hour for patient education and drug refills.	289		AC	1 large health facility				HCW		MOH/Stakeholders									
Pellecchia IL., 2017 (41)	Benefits and limitations of community ART groups (CAGs) in Thyolo, Malawi: a qualitative study	Mtshongwe Health Centre and Khayeni Health Centre, Thyolo, Malawi	Rural	MSF, Thyolo DHO	2012	Stable patients in CAG		No definition given	60	9	CAG	2 CAG pilot sites	Self-formed groups of up to 6 stable patients. Monthly meeting, venue is member home or other chosen community venue. The following variables: Adherence assessment, If in the CAG community card, Select member who goes to the clinic to collect drugs for members and receive clinical consultation and required lab tests	Report the findings of a qualitative study to assess the perceived benefits and limitations of CAGs from a patient and a healthcare worker (HCW) perspective.	Peer	doctor/nurse	MSF, Government DHO	Government DHO	Qualitative study								
Prust ML., 2016, (4) CAG	Multi-month prescriptions, fast-track refills, and community ART groups: results from a process evaluation in Malawi on using differentiated models of care to achieve national HIV treatment goals	30 heterogeneous sites in Malawi - 8 CAGs	Urban, Rural	MOH, CHAM	2012	Stable patients in CAG			62		CAG	8 sites	Peer-led groups of up to 6 stable patients that meet monthly at the community level for ARV distribution and peer-led discussions. Each month a different group member visits the facility to pick up ARV refills for the entire group, with each person having opportunity for a twice annual clinical visit			Peer		MOH, CHAM									
Prust FTR		30 heterogeneous sites in Malawi - 4 FTR	Urban, Rural	MOH, CHAM	2012	stable/ndr		>18 years, on ART > 6 months, on 1st-line ART, have no AIDS or OI, VL 1000 copies/mL, good adherence, not pregnant or lactating	26		FTR	4 sites	3-mth refills. Only 2 of 4 annual visits is required to be clinical visits with a nurse or doctor. The other 2 visits are refill-only visits with a lower-level health worker dispensing ARVs	Describe the qualitative component of the process evaluation that explored patients and provider perspectives on the key benefits and challenges associated with modes of differentiated care for stable patients		doctor/nurse and lay health worker		MOH, CHAM		Qualitative study							
Prust MMS		30 heterogeneous sites in Malawi		MOH, CHAM	2012	stable/mms			216		MMS	30 sites	3-month refills rather than one-month refills as in the standard of care			doctor/nurse		MOH, CHAM									
Roscherer F., 2014 (42)	A qualitative assessment of a community antiretroviral therapy group model in Tete, Mozambique	20 clinics in Tete province, Mozambique	Rural, urban, & urban	MSF & MoH Mozambique	2012	Stable patients in CAG			5729		CAG	20 clinics		Assess the relevance, the dynamic and the impact of CAG		Meet Nurse, MSF counsellors	MSF		Qualitative study								
Roscherer F., 2014 (43)	Sustainability of a community-based antiretroviral care delivery model - a qualitative research study in Tete, Mozambique	MSF Project Tete province, Mozambique	Rural	MSF & MoH Mozambique	Feb-08	Stable patients in CAG			5782		CAG	CAG intervention in Tete		Highlights the components, which might facilitate and/or jeopardise the sustainability of the CAG model, and formulates recommendations to guarantee its long-term sustainability		Peer, MSF counsellors	MSF		Qualitative evaluation								

<b>Selle HM, 2010 (19)</b>	Task-Shifting of Antiretroviral Delivery From Health Care Workers to Persons Living With HIV / AIDS - Clinical Outcomes of a Community-Based Program in Kenya	Mosoriot rural health centre, Kisumu, Kenya	Rural	USAID-AMPATH	2001	Stable patients in HD	Stable patients in Standard of Care (SOC)	≥ 18 years old, clinically stable on ART for a minimum of 3 months with no adherence issues; lives in Kisumu Division	96	112	HD	Clinically stable and adherent Community care coordinators (CCC) with secondary education were chosen from the HIV clinic population. They visited intervention patients monthly at home to dispense 1-month ARV supply and used a preprogrammed PDA to collect data - Symptoms, vital signs, adherence, CD4 prophylaxis. Clinic visits is every 3 months.	1 Hospital	Evaluate the clinical outcomes of patients enrolled in an innovative HIV care delivery system which utilized PLWs as Community Care Coordinators (CCCs), aided by an electronic decision support tool, to deliver medications and provide follow-up care to patients on ART in the community		CCC	Doctor, Nurse, Pharmacist	USAID-AMPATH	MOH, USAID-AMPATH	Community randomized clinical trial	13.5	10.5						
<b>Sharp J., 2019 (44)</b>	Outcomes of patients enrolled in an antiretroviral adherence club with recent viral suppression after experiencing elevated viral loads.	Uitenhage clinic, Khayelitsha, Cape Town, South Africa	Urban	NDCH	2012-2015	Stable patients in AC		on ART ≥6 months, single undetectable VL (VL < 400 copies/mL)	165		AC		Describe the outcomes of patients referred directly to ACs after viral suppression following specific adherence support	Retention in care - having contact with the clinic or AC between March 24 and June 21, 2015, with retention in club care - attending an AC in the same period. Viral suppression = last VL before analysis closure < 400 copies/mL.	Lay HIV counselor		NDCH/PEPFAR		A descriptive retrospective cohort study									
<b>Tsandaf PR, 2017 (3)</b>	High rates of retention and viral suppression in the scale-up of antiretroviral therapy adherence clubs in Cape Town, South Africa.	Cape town health district, South Africa	urban	WCDOH	2007	Stable patients in AC (clinic) and AC (community)		on ART >12 months with two consecutive suppressed viral loads (<400 copies/mL) and thereafter - on ART for >6 months, virally suppressed (<400 copies/mL) at the last viral load assessment and having no other condition requiring more frequent clinical consultation	3216		AC and CAC	25-30 patients who meet five times a year either within the health care facility or at a community venue for a brief symptom screen, group discussion and to receive their pre-packed ART supply. Facilitated by lay health workers with support from clinical staff	100 ACs - 15 facilities	Describe and explore possible predictors of LTVU and viral rebound for a representative sample of patients receiving their ART within ACs in Cape Town, South Africa		lay health worker		Government		Retrospective observational cohort study		96.9, 95.7, 94.1						
<b>Vandendyck &amp; M., 2015 (45)</b>	HIV/AIDS Research and treatment Community-Based ART Resulted in Excellent Retention and Can Leverage Community Engagement in Rural Lesotho, A Mixed Method Study	Health Centre (HC) Nazareth clinic, Roma District, Lesotho	Rural	MSF, Lesotho MOH, LENAHO - Lesotho network of AIDS Services Organisation and EGPAP - Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation	2012	Stable patients in CAG	Stable patients in Standard of Care (SOC)	an adult ≥18 yrs, with a CD4 above 350 cells/μL, while more than 6 months on ART	199	397	CAG	Monthly meeting in the community; adherence assessment by pill count; choose a representative to go for consultation at the health facility; raise any important events about other members; and receives a treatment refit for all group members; distributes ART upon return to members	Study how CAG dynamic was perceived by different stakeholders, and study retention among patients in conventional care and CAG members in HC Nazareth	Peer	doctor/nurse	MSF, LMOH, LENAHO, EGPAP	MSF, Lesotho MOH;	Mixed methods										
<b>Vemables R, 2019 (46)</b>	Patient experiences of ART adherence clubs in Khayelitsha and Gugulethu, Cape Town, South Africa: A qualitative study	Uitenhage ART clinic, Khayelitsha and Gugulethu, CAC Western Cape Province	Urban	MSF & WCDOH	2016	Stable patients in AC (clinic) and AC (community)		On ART ≥ 6 months, have an undetectable viral load result (<400 copies/mL) and no clinical condition requiring more frequent clinical follow-up	135		AC	25-30 patients group; lay health care worker led; meets 5 times a year for 30-40 minutes for a short symptom screen, peer support and distribution of pre-packed ART; annual clinical consultation	1 site HC Nazareth 2 Clinics	1. Explore perceptions of ACs among former and current AC members, as well as those who had never joined a club, in two settings in Cape Town, South Africa, including the perceived advantages and disadvantages of the differentiated model mechanisms. 2. Explore the experiences of patients referred out of ACs back to routine clinical care	Lay HIV counselor		WCDOH		A qualitative study									
<b>Vogt F., 2017 (47)</b>	Decentralizing ART Supply for Stable HIV Patients to Community-Based Distribution Centers: Program Outcomes From an Urban Context in Kinshasa, DRC	Rabindo Referral Hospital, Kinshasa, DRC	Urban	MSF, MOH DRC	2010	Stable patients in Community drug distribution point (CDDP)		≥18 yrs; on 1st-line ART ≥ 6 months; clinically stable for the past 3 months; CD4 >250 cells/mm <sup>3</sup> ; and not pregnant	1259		CDDP	Led by HIV positive lay community workers; adherence assessment; 3-monthly drug pick-up appointment; visit lasts typically 15 min; 1-yearly clinical consultation at the hub facility; onward referral if needed; Defaulters tracing	1 Rabinda hospital, 3 POs	Assess outcomes and risk factors for attrition after decentralization in this project	Peer	doctor/nurse	MSF	MOH, MSF	Cohort study									
<b>Wringe A., 2018 (48)</b>	Retention in care among clinically stable antiretroviral therapy patients following a six-monthly clinical consultation schedule: Findings from a cohort study in rural Malawi.	District Hospital and 10 health centres in Chitumbulu, Malawi	Rural	MSF & MOH Malawi	2008-2015	Stable patients in Six-monthly clinic consultation		18 years, 1st-line ART ≥12 months; CD4 count ≥300 cells without opportunistic infections, not pregnant/breastfeeding	18,363		JMA	Clinic appointments every 6 months, instead of 1 or 2 months; provision of 3-month drug supply; Health surveillance assistants (HSAs) provided 3-monthly ART refills from each health centre in between the SMCC	1 district Hospital, 10 HC	Describe long-term retention in care, and risk factors for attrition from care among clinically stable ART patients accessing SMCC over the period from 2008-2015. To estimate the number of clinic appointments "saved" as a result of SMCC	1. Attrition = either reported death, or loss to follow-up, with lost to follow-up recorded for patients more than 60 days late for their last scheduled appointment. 2. Annual number of drug refill visits with an HSA = annual number of clinical consultations that were saved	Clinical officers, Health surveillance assistants	MSF, Government		A retrospective cohort analysis	93								

Outcome - VL - % rebound DSD	Comments about units or subgroup analysis	Outcome - Retention (%)SOC	Outcome - Retention (%)DSD	Comments about units or any subgroup analysis	Outcome - LTFU (%)SOC	Outcome - LTFU (%)DSD	Outcome - LTFU (rate) SOC	Outcome - LTFU (rate) DSD	Comments about units or any subgroup analysis	Outcome - Mortality (%) SOC	Outcome - Mortality (%) DSD	Outcome - Mortality (rate)SOC	Outcome - Mortality (rate)DSD	Comments about units or any subgroup analysis	Outcome - Provider Cost/visit (\$)SOC	Outcome - Provider Cost/visit (\$)DSD	Outcome - Provider Cost per patient year(ppy)(\$) SOC	Outcome - Provider Cost per patient year(ppy) (\$)DSD	Outcome - Patient Cost/visit (PPPS)SOC	Outcome - Patient Cost/visit (PPPS)DSD	Comments about units or any subgroup analysis	Outcomes	se	Evidence_base	Expertise	QI_method	Monitoring	Project_duration	Project_type	Problem_awareness	Capacity_building	Community_awareness	Political_support	Spread	Urgency	Roles & responsibilities	Belief_in_intervention	Complexity	
	% - 1 yr rate - 100PY	95,49	98,03				4,61	1,99	note - 100PY						18,04	16,52	374	300				3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	
		95,4; 91,9; 90,8	98,2; 96,3; 95,8	% - 6 months; 2 yr; 18 months	9,4	3,9			% - 2 yrs	3,3	1			% - 2yr								3	3	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	3	2	1	3	1	3	nd	3	3
		83%	94,3	% - 3 yrs		1,3; 2,9; 7,8			% - 1 yr; 2 yrs; 5 yrs		0,4; 0,9; 2,8			% - 1 yr; 2 yrs; 5 yrs								3	3	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	3	2	1	3	3	3	3	3	3
																						3	3	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	2	3	3	
	% - 6 months; 2 yr; 2yrs				34,2	3,5			% - 2 yrs	21,7	2			% - 2 yrs								3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
3,3	% - 1 yr	95,2	98,3	% - 1 yr	4,2	1,4	4,3	1,5	% - 1 yr; rate - 100PY	1,5	0,3	1,6	0,3	% - 1 yr; rate - 100PY								3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	3	3	3	3
			97,5	% - 1 yr		0,1			% - 1 yr		2,2			% - 1 yr								3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
			97,7; 96,0; 93,4; 91,8	% - 1 yr; 2 yrs; 3 yrs; 4 yrs			0,1	note - 100PY				2,1	note - 100PY									3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	nd	2	3	3	3	nd	3	3
																						3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	nd	3	3	2	2	nd	3	
		81,6	89,5	% - 1 yr																		3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	
	% - 1 yr	87,2	81,5																			3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
5,7	% - 1 yr				13,6	18,9			% - 1 yr										2313725	4483725; 1,16	median cost on study exit day	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	3
	% - 4 months; rate - 100PY					8,9	5,9	note - 100PY			4,3	1,2	note - 100PY									3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	3	1	3	3	3	3



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Shared_goal	Incentives	Job_description	Workload	Resources	Funding	Infrastructure	Staff	Time	Integration	Adaptation	No_opposition	Readiness	Value_system	Management_support	Champions	Ownership	Power	Collaboration	Satisfaction	Stakeholder_participation	Community_participation	Patient_involvement	Staff_involvement	Sustainability_score	Challenges_reported	Comments (Pros & Cons)	Patients perspective	Staff perspective
3	3	3	2	2	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	3	91,7	Low Community involvement, staff shortage, Stigma	Reduced wait time	prefer the clubs due to reduced wait time	
2	3	2	3	1	1	1	2	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	1	2	2	3	2	2	1	1	1	71,8	1. inefficient and flexible drug supply chain; 2. inadequate capacity for routine viral load testing; 3. health information system not robust			
2	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	1	2	2	3	2	2	1	1	2	78,3	HSA not allowed to dispense ART	HSA are recognized and paid by the government	Satisfied	Satisfied
2	3	3	3	2	1	2	1	3	3	2	3	1	3	2	nd	1	1	2	3	1	1	2	2	74,4	another family member on ART, such as a child or pregnant spouse, was ineligible to join. Other clients had to leave CARGs when they themselves became pregnant, a member not respecting other member's confidentiality, desiring more frequent discussions with HCNs, obtaining sufficient quantities of free condoms; Migration in search of jobs, inaccurate information and rumors could spread among CARG members; late presentation of illnesses that begin with minor symptoms	increased paperwork, quality of documentation improved due to reduced workload; reduced transmission of communicable diseases such as TB due to less visits;	Time and cost saving: Psychosocial support provided during CARG group meetings; share knowledge and information; reduced wait times and queues in the clinic; income generating activities in some CARGs; improved the quality of care received at clinics due to reduced workload	a temporary increase in workload when CARGs were first implemented completing the required documentation; fewer clients needed to be tracked; using CARGs to communicate with CARG members
2	3	3	3	2	1	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	nd	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	85,5	clients who do not collect their medication and the transportation of medication to the club as major challenges to successful adherence club implementation. Substance abuse and not having disclosed their HIV status to those with whom they live;	Communication between clinic staff and those leading the adherence club as well as between adherence club staff and the client was reported as a factor critical for adherence club success;	ideal number of clients per club should be < 20; counselors should lead the management of club support; and churches and community halls were the most appropriate venues;	Clients are not adherent when they feel healthy or when they travel
2	3	3	3	2	1	1	2	1	2	2	3	1	3	3	1	1	1	3	3	2	1	1	2	74,2	No wide spread availability of EMR	Therapy Edge HIV EMR was instrumental to having good data quality	Patient were satisfied with down referral	satisfied
3	3	2	3	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	93,3	adapt CAG for vulnerable sub-groups i.e. children, adolescent, pregnant women, commercial sex workers, HIV/TB co-infected; long term follow-up	Strong stakeholders involvement	Highly acceptable; decreased financial and economic cost; improved self management; reduced transport; enforcing social networks and peer support;	4-fold reduction in consultations
2	3	nd	3	2	2	1	2	3	3	3	3	nd	3	3	nd	2	2	3	3	2	1	2	2	82,9	Low male participation; fear of disclosure leading to stopping	Could potentially be used to promote uptake of HIV testing, linkage to care	Acceptable	Acceptable
1	3	nd	3	nd	nd	nd	nd	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	nd	2	nd	2	3	nd	nd	2	2	86,2				
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	nd	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	94,9				
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	nd	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	94				
1	3	3	3	2	1	2	2	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	1	1	1	3	3	2	2	1	2	76,7	No CD4 or VL results in past 12 mths. Jkls long TAT for VL results to come. No exit interviews for 417 participants; Linking patients in databases, poor documentation and incomplete data	may lead to missed annual facility-based checkups for patients; decrease the per-patient costs bc HBCs are cheaper; more time to treat and care for ART patients bc of travel time and more social interaction during visit	Generally satisfied	Not really described
1	3	nd	3	2	2	3	2	3	3	1	3	3	3	3	1	2	1	3	nd	1	1	1	2	78,1				



1	3	1	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	3	3	1	3	3	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	2	67,5	Stand alone intervention; Funded externally; minimal government involvement;	withdrawal from study due to faith that God will heal; CCS recognize psychosocial issues e.g. food insecurity, domestic violence, alcohol abuse,	Mostly satisfied	Mostly pleased
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	nd	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	94,9				
2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	95,8	Missing registers; only variables routinely collected in AC registers were used; limited followup period;	Unique identifiers enabled differentiating b/w true LTFU from client transfers;		
2	3	1	3	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	90,8	a reliable drug supply system; appropriate number of CHW and counselors to support the formation, training and monitoring of CAGs; clear mechanisms to trigger support or referral back to clinic care; simplified monitoring system			
3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	94,2				
2	3	3	3	2	1	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	83,3	high levels of stigma;	Fast drug pick-up	Convenient	Convenient
2	3	3	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	nd	2	3	3	nd	2	nd	3	3	90,1				

Supplementary file III(a): Risk of bias assessment - Quantitative studies							
Author	Year	Reporting	External validity	Bias	Selection bias	Power	Risk of bias
Bellemans M	2014	High	High	High	High	Moderate	High
Bango F	2016	Low	Moderate	High	High	Moderate	Moderate
Bekolo C	2017	Low	Moderate	High	High	Moderate	Moderate
Bock P	2019	Moderate	High	High	High	High	High
Brennan A	2011	Low	Moderate	High	High	Moderate	Moderate
Decroo T	2011	Moderate	High	High	High	Moderate	High
Decroo T	2014	Low	High	High	High	High	High
De Jager G	2018	Low	Moderate	High	High	Low	Moderate
Fox_AC	2019	Moderate	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Fox_DMD	2019	Moderate	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Geldsetzer P	2018	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
Grimsrud A	2014	Low	Moderate	High	High	Moderate	Moderate
Grimsrud A	2015	Moderate	High	High	High	Moderate	High
Grimsrud A	2016	Moderate	Moderate	High	High	Moderate	High
Hanrahan CF	2019	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Low	Low	Moderate
Long L	2011	Moderate	High	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Luque-Fernandez MA	2013	Low	Moderate	High	High	Moderate	Moderate
Mudavanhu M	2019	Moderate	Moderate	High	High	High	High
Mukumbang FC_Plos1	2019	Moderate	Moderate	High	High	High	High
Pasipamire L_CAGs	2018	Low	High	High	High	High	High
Pasipamire L_Outreach	2018	Low	High	High	High	High	High
Pasipamire L_Clubs	2018	Low	High	High	High	High	High
Selke HM	2010	Low	High	Moderate	Low	Low	Moderate
Sharp J		Low	High	High	High	High	High
Tsondai PR	2017	Low	High	High	High	Moderate	High
Vandendyck M	2015	Moderate	Moderate	High	High	Moderate	Moderate
Vogt F	2017	Moderate	High	High	High	High	High
Wringe A	2018	Moderate	Moderate	High	High	Low	High

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Supplementary file 4: Criteria used for Stable patient definition per included study vs definition category												
Author/Year (ref)	Model	Age (years)	Months on ART	CD4 (cells/mm <sup>3</sup> )	Viral Load VL (copies / ml)	Opportunistic infection (OI) /side effects	Weight	Regimen	Adherence	Pregnancy/lactating	Residence	Definition category
Bango F., 2016 (9)	AC	≥ 18	≥18	>200	2 consecutive VL <400 not >6months old	No ongoing drug side effect; No ongoing OI	> 40 kg					Base+
Bekolo C., 2017 (20)	SMA	≥15	≥ 6		≤1000	No OI				Not pregnant		Base+
Bemelmans M., 2014 (21)	SMA	≥15	≥12	≥ 300		No OI/side effects,		1st line		Not pregnant/breastfeeding		Base+
Bochner AF., 2019 (22)	CARG	≥ 18	≥ 6	>200	<1000/	No active OI				Not pregnant/breastfeeding		Base+
Back P., 2019 (23)	AC	≥18	≥ 6		<400 L			On current ART	ART adherence ≥90%			Base+
Brennan A., 2011 (24)	DR	≥ 18	≥11	CD4 >200	2 consecutive VL <400	no OIs		1st line				Base+
Decroo T., 2011 (25)	CAG	Adult	≥ 6	≥200		No clinical stage II or IV conditions	> 25kg	1st line				Base+
Decroo T., 2014 (26)	CAG	Adult	≥ 6	≥200								Base
De Jager GA., 2018 (27)	AC	≥ 18	≥ 12		2 recent consecutive results i.e, <400							Base
Fox MP., 2019 (28)	AC	≥18	> 12		2 consecutive results i.e.<400			On same ART		Not pregnant	In the facility's catchment area	Base+
Fox DMD	DMD										In the facility's catchment area	Base+
Geldsetzer P., 2018 (29)	HD	≥18	≥ 6	>350 cells/mm	<1,000 ≥ 12 months prior to study enrolment						In the facility's catchment area	Base+
Grimsrud A., 2014 (7)	DR		≥ 16 weeks		most recent VL <50 l,	No active OI or poorly controlled chronic conditions		1st-line	Good adherence by pill count			Base+
Grimsrud A., 2015 (30)	CAC		>12		2 consecutive undetectable VL <400	No other medical conditions requiring more frequent follow-up		Adherent on the same ART regimen	Adherent			Base+
Grimsrud A., 2016 (31)	CAC		>12		2 consecutive suppressed VL <400	No active opportunistic infections.			Self-reported adherence			Base+
Hanrahan CF., 2018 (32)	AC	≥18	≥12		2 most recent results ≤400	No comorbidity, HIV +ve child, HBP with more than 1 anti-HBP drug		same ART regimen >12 months				Base+
Long L., 2011 (33)	DR	≥ 18	≥11	CD4 >200 cells/mm3	<400 the last 10 months	no OIs	<5% weight loss in last 3 visits					Base+
Luque-Fernandez MA., 2013 (34)	AC	≥ 18	≥18	≥ 200 cells/ml	Sustained VS							Base
Mantell JE., 2019 (35)	CARG	No specific definition given										Base-
Mudavanhu M., 2019 (36)	AC	≥ 18	≥1 year	≥ 200	Sustained VS	Free of comorbidities						Base+
Mukumban g FC., 2018 (37))	AC	No specific definition given										Base-
Mukumban g FC., 2019_SAJHI VM (38)	AC	≥18			Lower than detectable (<400 copies/ml)			1st-line	Good clinic attendance and medication adherence.			Base

<b>Mukumban g FC., 2019 Plos1 (39)</b>	AC	≥18			Lower than detectable (<400 copies/ml)				evidence of good clinic attendance			Base
<b>Pasipamire L., 2018 (40) (CAGs)</b>	CAG	≥16	≥ 12	> 350	VS		> 45 kg					Base+
<b>Pasipamire Outreach</b>	OR	≥16	≥ 12	> 350	VS		> 45 kg					Base+
<b>Pasipamire AC</b>	AC	≥16	≥ 12	> 350	VS.		> 45 kg					Base+
<b>Pellecchia U., 2017 (41)</b>	CAG	No specific definition given										Base-
<b>Prust ML., 2018, (4) CAG</b>	CAG	≥18	≥ 6		<1,000	No ADRs or OIs		1st-line	Good adherence	Not pregnant/ lactating		Base+
<b>Prust FTR</b>	FTR											Base+
<b>Prust MMS</b>	MMS											Base+
<b>Rasschaert F, 2014 (42)</b>	CAG	≥ 18	≥6	>200		No current OI		1 <sup>st</sup> line		Not pregnant	live in same geographic area	Base+
<b>Rasschaert F, 2014 (43)</b>	CAG	No specific definition given										Base-
<b>Selke HM., 2010 (19)</b>	HD	≥ 18	≥ 3	>200					No adherence issues/disclo sed status to a HH member		Lives in Kosirai Division	Base+
<b>Sharp J., 2019 (44)</b>	AC	≥ 18	≥6		single undetectable VL i.e. < 400							Base
<b>Tsondai PR., 2017 (3)</b>	AC and CAC	≥ 16	>12		2 consecutive results <400	No other condition requiring more frequent clinical consultation.						Base+
<b>Vandendyc k M., 2015 (45)</b>	CAG	≥18	≥ 6	>350								Base
<b>Venables E., 2019 (46)</b>	AC	≥ 18	≥ 6		undetectable viral load result i.e.<400	No clinical condition requiring more frequent clinical follow-up						Base+
<b>Vogt F., 2017 (47)</b>	CDDP	≥18	≥ 6	>250				1st-line		Not pregnant		Base+
<b>Wringe A., 2018 (48)</b>	SMA	≥ 18	≥12	≥300	VL ≤ 1000	No opportunistic infections		1st-line		Not pregnant/ breastfeeding		Base+

**Legend:** AC - Facility-based treatment club; CAC - Community-based Adherence clubs; CAG - Community ART Groups; HD - community ARV home delivery; OR - Out-of-facility group – Outreach

FTR - Fast Track refills; SMA - Six monthly appointment; MMS - Multi-month scripting i.e. 3-month refills; DR - Down-referral from Hospital to PHC; VS – virally suppressed; HH - Household