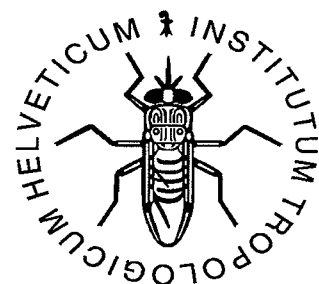


**Situation Analysis of the provision of training  
courses in clinical management of HIV infection  
for physicians working in Eastern and Southern  
Africa and the involvement of European AIDS  
specialists in such trainings**

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## Summary

HIV/AIDS is a worldwide pandemic with nearly 40 million infected people. Of them, 64% live in sub-Saharan Africa where HIV prevalence averages 20% and even more in some of the countries. Since the introduction of highly active antiretroviral treatment (HAART), HIV/AIDS has transformed from a primary deadly disease into a chronic medical condition with life-long treatment. As HIV medicine is a very complex and rapidly changing field, quality care requires treatment by trained and experienced professionals. Therefore training of health care professionals is an essential step in the roll-out of antiretroviral treatment (ART) programs.

To get an overview on the offer of training courses for physicians in the field of clinical management of HIV infection, a situation analysis was done. Part one of the situation analysis focuses on the offer of training courses in selected countries in Eastern and Southern Africa. Part two focuses on the involvement of European institutions in such training courses, with a focus on low resource settings.

The results of the situation analysis show that a national training program has been implemented in most of the countries included in this analysis. Beside the national training program many countries are also offering private training courses, organised by universities and other institutions. Teaching methodologies are mostly interactive and include bed-side teaching or attachments in some cases. The involvement of European institutions in training in clinical management of HIV infection seems to be very limited regarding stand-alone courses. Master and other post-graduate training programs however, where clinical management of HIV infection is just one topic among many others, have not been included in this descriptive study.

As access to face-to-face training courses can be limited, other ways of training should be offered as e.g. distance learning courses or mentorship programs. After the training, ongoing support for the participants and continuing medical education (CME) are of high importance.

To best cope with the training needs in the field of HIV infection an international database with the offer of the different training courses should be built up. Such a database could be connected with an accreditation system for the training courses, contributing to their quality assurance.