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access to treatment

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TO: Michael / Sandy

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FROM: Deborah von Zinkernagel
Deputy Director for Policy

(This fax contains _____ page(s) + cover)

Background piece on low cost drug plg for Africa — ours alone

We can refine if useful. Dennis's staff report got us working on this.

If there are any problems with this transmission, please call Terrie Alvarez at (202) 690-5560

Author: Eric Goosby at ~OPHS_DC
Date: 2/23/00 11:02 AM
Priority: Urgent
Receipt Requested
TO: Deborah Von Zinkernagel
CC: Glen Harelson
Subject: Drugs/Africa

This is an off the top of the head compilation of essential drugs. This is not considered a comprehensive list, nor does it cover parasitic drugs or immunizations, most of which are in adequate supply in most contries.

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OVERVIEW

The needs in Africa are extraordinary. The problem of medical care delivery in the setting of no or few resources is evident. The compilation of useful medications is predicated on the following assumptions:

1. Poor medical infrastructure for the majority of the population
2. Very limited resources to put toward medical diagnostic and treatment needs
3. Clear need for grass roots based community responses to HIV in each geographic area
4. Hospice, palliative care needs remain largely unmet
5. Transportation infrastructure is limited and fixed for the near future
6. Treatment of opportunistic infection is largely not occurring
7. Tb and malaria continue to impact heavily on the populations in Af.
8. Creation of an autonomous medical clinic with surveillance capability . The surveillance capability would focus on describing the epidemic in the immediate area in and around the clinic. This autonomous clinic would expand to adjacent areas, eventually leading to a comprehensive network of medical capabilities in the country.. Consultation and referral capability would need to be developed.
9. Stigma and prejudice remain a major barrier to accessing high risk populations and once identified, tested and brought into medical care.
10. Prevention interventions need to be based at the medical facility
11. Treatment of STD/TB/malaria and prenatal services are integral to impacting HIV spread

Annotated Formulary (does not include drugs for parasitic infections or immunizations)

1. Dapsone ($0.19/tab)
   This drug is used to profiles against the development of the most common AIDS pneumonia, Pneumocystis Carinii Pneumonia (PCP). It also prevents the development of Toxoplasmosis. Dapsone is the second drug of choice for this purpose. It should only be used in patients with normal levels of G6PD (requires blood test/ G6PD deficiency is common in Africans.

2. Isoniazid (INH: $0.02/T.B.)
   This is the primary drug used in prophylaxis for non INH resistant TB prevention and in combination with three other drugs, for treatment of active TB. It is well tolerated at 300 mg qd in patients with no history of liver disease. INH hepatitis begins to be a problem in patients over 35 yrs of age and needs to be given with monitoring of liver function tests (blood test) to patients over 35y.

3. Bactrim or Septra (trimethoprime-sulfamethoxazole sulfamethoxazole) ($0.07/tab)
   This drug is the drug of choice to prevent PCP and other common infections of the sinuses, lung and urinary tract. It also cover Toxoplasmosis.

4. Doxycycline ($0.11)
This drug is used as an alternative to chloroquine prophylaxis for malaria and in treating the common sexually transmitted disease, chlamydia. It can also be usd to treat Primary and secondary syphilis in a penicillin allergic patient (requires 30d treatment)

5. Azithromycin ($6.00/tab)
This drug is used for the treatment o chancroid, mycobacterium avium intracellularae (MAI), common bacterial pneumonias. It has the advantage of having shortened time course for therapy of pneumonia, chancroid and other bacterial infections.

6. *Ketoconazole ($2.80/tab)

Itraconazole ($5.60/100mg tab)
Fluconazole ($6.88/100mg tab)

Ketoconazole is the cheapest form of the newer antifungal agents (such as fluconazole,and itraconazole). Highly effective oral therapy for candida albicans infections of skin, vagina, and esophagus. Not as effective as other --conazoles for treatment of cyrptococcal meningitis or coccidioidomycosis.

7. Metronidazole (Flagyl) ($0.03/250tab)
This drug is effective against gingivitis, intra abdominal sepsis, Amebiasis, bacterial vagueness, trichomoniasis and clostrida.difficule colitis.

8. Nystatin Vaginal Suppositories ($0.11/each)
Used in oral thrush and vaginal thrush

9. Acyclovir ($1.08/200mg tab)

Used in the prophylaxis and treatment of herpes simplex infections of skin, sex organs, anus-rectum

10. Rifampin ($0./61/tab)

Used alone in the prophylaxis of TB known to be resistant to INH or in the the treatment of active TB in combination with Pyrazinamide, streptomycin and ethambutol.

11. Assorted Antibiotics

Ceftriaxone : one shot treatment for syphillis
Benzethine Penicillin : late latent, tertiary and Neurosyphilis
Dicloxacillin: oral medication for more severe skin infections
Keflex : oral medication for skin infections
Erythromycin: skin infections and atypical pneumonias (eg:tularemia, Q-fever,

mycoplasma,)

12. Chloroquine (quinine sulfate), Mefloquine, quinidine, proquanil

Treatment or prophylaxis for malaria.