Working together

Working with HIV advocates and people living with HIV has been instrumental in developing EMA’s policies, guidelines and regulatory processes.

Patients are involved in early development and evaluation of HIV medicines to provide views based on their real-life experience with the disease and its treatment.

They contribute to meetings of EMA’s committees and scientific advisory group on HIV medicines, reviewing information and communication materials, as needed.

Scientific guidelines and scientific advice from EMA help medicine developers translate progress in medical science into medicines that bring real health benefits to people living with HIV.

Prevention

Prevention strategies are an important element in the fight against HIV.

Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) medicines are intended for people who are not HIV-infected but are at a high risk of infection.

EMA has provided scientific advice to facilitate the development of new HIV vaccines to provide people at risk of acquiring HIV with more prevention options.

Available treatments

All antiretroviral medicines in the European Union (EU) have to be authorised centrally at European level to make them quickly available to people living with HIV.

68 anti-HIV medicines have been authorised in the EU upon the recommendation of EMA since 1995.

These include fixed-dose combinations and medicines for patients who have developed resistance to existing therapies.

Simplified treatments, long-acting formulations and therapeutic advancements are intended to improve patients’ adherence and quality of life.

Children and adolescents

EMA helps to reduce the risk of HIV infections, illness and mortality among vulnerable groups including children and adolescents.

EMA stimulates research on and the development of antiretroviral medicines for children living with HIV.

The Agency is committed to including adolescents in pivotal trials to facilitate faster access to HIV treatments.

EMA’s paediatric committee (PDCO) defines paediatric needs and ensures that children are included in safety and efficacy studies.

Global efforts

EMA supports initiatives to improve access to HIV/AIDS treatments globally through international collaboration.

EMA collaborates with the World Health Organization (WHO) by providing scientific opinions on antiretrovirals intended for use outside the EU.

The Agency has given opinions on three anti-HIV medicines, facilitating patient access to HIV/AIDS treatments in low- and middle-income countries.

World AIDS Day – Communities make the difference

EMA supports the global HIV response through scientific evaluation, supervision and safety monitoring of medicines and active patient engagement.

PrEP medicines have been centrally authorised in the EU since 2016

4 of these are generics

EMA has provided scientific advice to facilitate the development of new HIV vaccines to provide people at risk of acquiring HIV with more prevention options.

68 medicines authorised to treat/prevent HIV infection

20 of these are generics