#### MTN HIV TESTING ALGORITHMS

By Erasmus Mhizha (UZ-UCSF)

#### **Outline**

- Definition
- HIV Testing Methods
- MTN 003 Algorithms
- Interpretation
- MTN 018 Algorithms
- Interpretation
- Conclusion

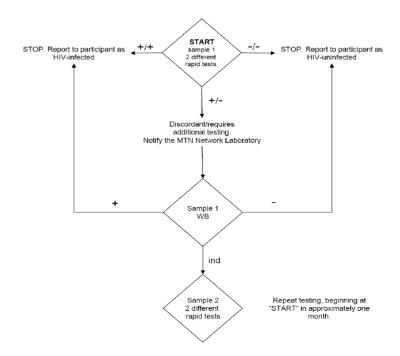
## **Definition: HIV Algorithm**

 Steps followed to come up with a laboratory HIV diagnosis

### **HIV Testing Methods**

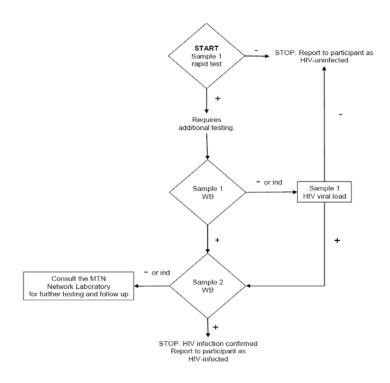
- Antibody Methods
  - -Rapids (MTN)
  - -Western Blot (WB) (MTN)
  - -ELISA
- Antigen Method
  - -P24
- HIV PCR
  - -Viral Load (HIV RNA) (MTN)
  - -HIV DNA (MTN)

# MTN 003 :Screening



- Starts with 2 different rapids
  - Both negative: HIV Uninfected/Eligible
  - Both positive: HIV infected/Excluded
  - Discordant: Proceed to WB/Notify NL
- Further tests done on indeterminate results with NL notification
- Process re-started after a month if WB is inconclusive

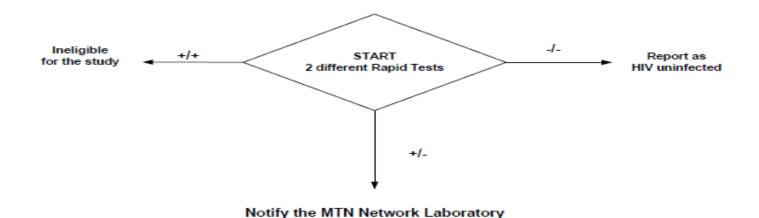
# **Follow Up and Primary Endpoint**



- Starts with 1 rapid (2 if required by local regulations)
  - Negative result :HIV uninfected
  - Positive: Proceed to WB (Sample 1)
- WB is negative or indeterminate:
  - Consult NL
  - Perform VL
    - VL negative: restart algorithm next visit
    - VL positive: Continue to sample 2

- Sample 2 WB:
  - Positive: Algorithm complete at site level. Plasma sent to NL for third confirmatory WB
  - Negative or Indeterminate (Rare): Consult the NL
- Don't forget to collect CD4, VL and Plasma Archive with Sample 2 WB draw

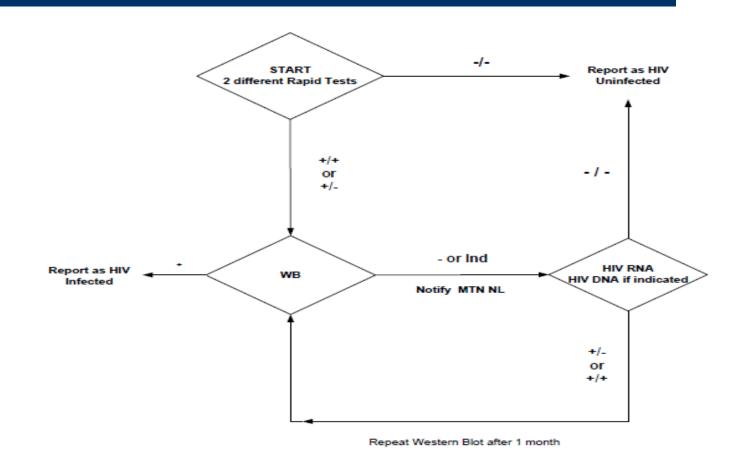
## MTN 018 Screening & Enrolment



for follow-up.

- Starts with 2 different rapids
  - Two positives: infected/excluded
  - Two Negatives: not infected/eligible
  - Discordant: notify NL/excluded

# MTN 018:Follow-Up and Primary Endpoint Determination



- Starts with 2 rapids (All sites)
  - Both Negative: Uninfected
  - Both Positive: Proceed to WB, (CD4, VL, Archive)
  - Discordant: Proceed to WB, (CD4, VL, Archive)
- WB:
  - Positive: Site testing complete
  - Negative or indeterminate: HIV RNA testing and DNA if indicated. Notify NL

- RNA (and DNA if indicated) negative: Restart algorithm
- RNA (or DNA if indicated) positive: Repeat WB in one month

## **Advantages**

#### Advantages

- Easier counselling messages
- Less visits and blood draws for participants
- Less burden on site staff/ less need for communications with NL
- Better capture of endpoints for protocol purposes
- Collects sample closer to seroconversion for resistance testing

## **Disadvantages**

#### Disadvantages

- Does not have second confirmation sample drawn on different day to check for potential labelling errors. <u>Rapid HIV tests and WB samples must be</u> from separate collections on the same day.
- May have few CD4/plasma archive samples processed that are not needed

#### Conclusion

- Important to differentiate these two: 'consult' VS 'notify'
- Captures all possible outcomes from rapids