

HIV Test Kits:

Proposal from Director, Blood Safety and Clinical Technology (BCT)

It is proposed that any recommendations on drugs used for HIV/AIDS be linked to the BCT webpage on HIV diagnostics and in the case of the publication the internet website address is added to the HIV/AIDS section with an explanatory note of justification.

http://www.who.int/bct/Main_areas_of_work/BTS/HIV_Diagnostics/HIV_Diagnostics.

“Providing diagnostic support is an essential part of ensuring quality health care in the fight against the HIV/AIDS epidemic. There has been a strong call for access to drugs to help in this battle, however, it should be remembered that before treating and caring for patients, one must first diagnose them correctly. In addition to the actual diagnosis of patients, diagnostic technologies are also used for screening of donated blood, surveillance, prevention of mother-to-child transmission, voluntary counselling and testing, and laboratory monitoring of HIV anti-retroviral therapy. “

WHO recommendation

- A short explanatory note on HIV Diagnostics with the internet address link to the BCT website should accompany any section in which HIV/AIDS drugs are recommended.
- The same explanatory note and internet address link should be included in print publications of the Essential Medicines List.