

HIV Treatment and Support for foreigners living with HIV <Thailand>

(1) Steps toward government subsidized HIV treatment (ART hereafter)

Step 1	Get HIV blood test at government designated hospital.
Step 2	Foreigners with nationalities of Laos, Cambodia, Myanmar, and Vietnam can apply for the health insurance for non-Thai people at hospitals at the cost of THB 2,200 per year.
Step2-b	Foreign workers can apply for health insurance through companies. These workers are eligible for healthcare services, including HIV diagnosis and treatment, supported by Thai government. However, not all hospital provide medical service with health insurance for non-Thai people.
Step 3	See a doctor. If the blood-test result is HIV positive, you will get ARVs at the hospital on the same day. CD4 count test and other lab tests are provided for health assessment and opportunistic infection screening.
Step 4	<p>Visit the hospital every 2 weeks at first, then every month. When condition is stable, every 3-6 months to collect ARVs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -General blood tests (e.g. CBC, FBS, SGPT, etc.) are provided every 6-12 months. -HIV viral load test is provided once a year from 6 months after taking ARVs. CD4 count test is provided every 6-12 months. -PLWHs who are taking ARVs with CD4 over 350 and HIV viral load below 50 for 2 consecutive years, then CD4 count test will be skipped. -If HIV viral load test is over 1000, drug resistant tests will be provided.

(2) Options to get ART if you do not meet condition for government subsidy

Foreigners who do not meet condition for Thai government subsidy, are treated at state hospitals, the private hospitals, and the Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Center (known as the Anonymous Clinic). Payment for lab tests and ARVs are full amount. The lab tests' and ARVs' prices at the private hospitals are usually more expensive than the state hospitals and the Anonymous Clinic. (<https://english.redcross.or.th/aboutus/department/trcarc/>) There are more options of ARVs, in addition to Thailand's standard treatment, at the Anonymous Clinic.

*Steps toward HIV treatment are as the same as above.

(3) HIV medicines commonly used

Generic Name / Strength	Trade Name
ABC(300)	Ziagen
ABC(600)/3TC(300)	-
DTG(50)/3TC(300)/TDF(300)	-
DTG(50)	Tivicay
EFV(600)	Stocrin
3TC(150)/ ZDV(300)	Combivir
TDF(300)/FTC(200)	Truvada
TDF(300)/FTC(200)/EFV(600)	-
RPV	Edurant

*ARVs are not available and cannot be purchased at drug stores.

(4) Support organization for PLWH

Organization name	Thai network of people living with HIV (TNP+)
Person in charge	Mr. Apiwat Kwangkaei, Chair person
Mail address	apiwatmercy@gmail.com