

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

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Deadline: 28 June 2024

This is a call for abstracts proposing articles for a supplement of the *Journal of the International AIDS Society (JIAS)*, titled **"Differentiated service delivery – beyond HIV treatment for integration and other health needs"**.

The Editors invite submissions of multidisciplinary research articles designed to advance the scale-up of differentiated service delivery (DSD) beyond HIV treatment. While the Editors especially seek papers reporting original research, they will also consider commentaries, reviews and other discursive articles for this supplement (see "Submissions" below for further details).

### GUEST EDITORS:

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## BACKGROUND

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DSD for HIV treatment has experienced significant scale-up over the past decade. This expansion can be attributed to several factors, including supportive global normative guidance, substantial research evidence, implementation efforts by governments and other innovators, community demand, and the benefits for individuals receiving HIV treatment. At this stage, it is essential to recognize that as DSD is client-centred, its application extends beyond HIV care and can offer advantages for addressing diverse health needs. Both individuals living with and without HIV who require long-term treatment and follow-up for other health conditions could potentially benefit from the implementation and integration of DSD approaches.

A DSD approach can offer additional opportunities within the HIV care cascade. Implementing DSD for prevention, including pre-exposure (PrEP) and post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), could broaden access and support uptake. Furthermore, applying DSD to advanced HIV disease by adapting services to meet the needs of clients with clinical challenges could facilitate more decentralized and task-shifted service delivery. This supplement will emphasize how key enablers of a DSD approach for HIV treatment can facilitate a role in DSD for other health conditions. These key enablers include the availability of improved, non-toxic medication regimens, simplified clinical guidance and monitoring procedures, fixed-dose combinations, and cohort data demonstrating retention and treatment success.

Beyond HIV, applying a DSD model to non-communicable disease service delivery, such as for individuals with controlled hypertension, could promote sustained adherence and effective management. Similarly, leveraging DSD systems for other health commodities, like family planning, could enhance access and help address unmet contraceptive needs. Evidence supporting the efficacy of DSD for managing non-communicable diseases or family planning can facilitate the integration of service delivery, benefiting both individuals living with and individuals living without HIV.

Given the growing emphasis on the sustainability of HIV programmes, it is imperative to acknowledge the valuable contributions of DSD in reducing the burden of HIV care on the health system and ensuring its continued integration into future health programming. This vision of the future encompasses a DSD framework that extends beyond HIV treatment and includes a broader spectrum of health needs.

This supplement provides a timely opportunity to bring together a wide range of research disciplines that focus on DSD beyond HIV treatment for integration and other health needs. The supplement will be launched at [IAS 2025, the 13th IAS Conference on HIV Science, in Kigali, Rwanda](#).

## SUBMISSIONS

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The scope of this call for abstracts is global and focuses on new developments to advance health programming and service delivery. Submissions from researchers in low- and middle-income countries and/or originating from community-academic partnerships are strongly encouraged.

Multiple article categories will be considered (Research, Short report, Review, Debate, Commentary, Viewpoint, Field notes). Priority will be placed on papers reporting on original research.

Particular interest will be directed to primary research on DSD beyond HIV treatment for those who are clinically stable, including the following topics:

- DSD for PrEP
- DSD for PEP
- DSD for advanced HIV disease
- DSD for specific populations (for example, children and adolescents)
- DSD for HIV treatment alongside integration of other health needs, such as non-communicable diseases or family planning
- DSD for other health conditions

## SUPPORT

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The supplement will be organized by IAS – the International AIDS Society – with financial support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation as part of the [Differentiated Service Delivery programme](#).

## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION PROCESS

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- Initial contributions should be in the form of abstracts written in English and structured according to the headings of the selected article category (word limit: 350 words, see [Author Guidelines](#)), and specify the proposed manuscript category (Research, Short report, Review, Debate, Commentary, Viewpoint, Field notes).
- Authors are welcome to make initial enquiries about potential submissions by emailing the IAS Differentiated Service Delivery programme at [dsd@iasociety.org](mailto:dsd@iasociety.org).
- Abstracts should be emailed to [dsd@iasociety.org](mailto:dsd@iasociety.org) with the subject line, "JIAS supplement: DSD beyond HIV treatment".
- The deadline for submission of abstracts is **28 June 2024**.

## ABSTRACT SELECTION PROCESS

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- Initial submissions will be reviewed by the Guest Editors.
- All abstract submitters will be notified about the outcome of their submission for the supplement by **5 July 2024**, and selected authors will be invited to contribute a full manuscript.
- The deadline for the submission of full manuscripts to JIAS for selected articles is **16 September 2024**. Only manuscripts invited by the Guest Editors will be considered for inclusion in the supplement.
- Manuscripts must be written in English and conform to the journal style and format for each manuscript category. Authors must adhere to manuscript structure requirements, as stipulated in the [Author Guidelines](#), including word counts.
- Invitation and submission do not guarantee publication. Each invited manuscript will undergo editorial appraisal and peer review based on its individual merits. Only articles that are accepted after peer review will be published in the supplement. Manuscripts that do not meet the journal's standards will be rejected.
- The journal holds supplements to the same standards as other issues. Specifically, all manuscripts under consideration for inclusion in a supplement must adhere to the journal's standards with regards to overall quality, types of articles and types of content within the articles.

## IMPORTANT DATES

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**28 June 2024:** Abstract submission closes

**5 July 2024:** Authors notified of the outcome of their abstract submission

**16 September 2024:** Submission of invited manuscripts to JIAS for further consideration

**5 July 2025:** Publication and launch of the supplement