

Editorial

Six months after its official launch on May 7, 2025, the ELDORADO project is on the starting blocks, ready to roll out worldwide. ELDORADO aims to generate high-quality evidence on the safety of dolutegravir (DTG) and to assess doravirine (DOR) as a potential alternative first-line treatment for people living with HIV-1. This international clinical trial is jointly implemented by a consortium of eleven institutions from six countries in Brazil, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Mozambique and Thailand.

Through their joint efforts, the ELDORADO project aims to explore, document and compare the efficacy and safety of widely used antiretrovirals while enhancing capacity building as part of a clinical trial. By integrating scientific, clinical, and community perspectives, the project seeks to produce robust evidence that can inform HIV-treatment policies and improve the quality of life of people living with HIV worldwide.

This first newsletter marks the beginning of a regular communication series to share project milestones, scientific activities, and training initiatives across the consortium — published every six months to showcase ELDORADO's ongoing progress.

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NEWS FROM THE FIELD

Start of clinical activities

Nineteen clinical sites across six countries are currently active or progressively opening and preparing for participant enrolment. From Yaoundé to Maputo, Abidjan to Chiang Mai, Rio de Janeiro and Nova Iguaçu to Paris, Bordeaux, Montpellier or Nantes, ELDORADO's multi-national network is fully mobilized to implement the trial.

Inclusions are ongoing in Brazil & in France since semester 1 2025. On-site initiation visits have been performed in semester 2 2025 in Cameroon, Mozambique and Côte d'Ivoire pending administrative authorization before inclusions. Thailand is going to be ready in semester 1 2026.



Initiation training, Maputo, Mozambique



Initiation training, Yaoundé, Cameroon

The ELDORADO website is live!

The official website eldorado-trial.com is now online and will provide an overview of the project's objectives, consortium, training initiatives and upcoming news & events.



SPECIAL FOCUS

Liver assessment: the Fibroscan using CAP module®



Fibroscan® is a non-invasive technology based on transient elastography that measures liver stiffness and steatosis that can be used to detect early stages of metabolic-associated liver diseases (MASLD).

In ELDORADO, it is used to monitor potential hepatic effects of antiretroviral therapies, particularly regarding the occurrence or progression of liver steatosis, fibrosis and cirrhosis.

Fibroscan® assessments will be performed at baseline, week 48, and week 96 to track liver diseases and contribute to the project's safety and metabolic evaluations.

TRAINING & CAPACITY-BUILDING

Capacity strengthening is central to ELDORADO's vision; several webinars and online courses will be organized throughout the project to train clinical, research and laboratory staff, as well as Community Advisory Boards (CABs), in many topics related to patient support strategies, from HIV care to metabolic / non-communicable diseases, research methodology, Good Clinical and Laboratory Practices, regulatory process and community engagement.

The first webinar, held on 17 October 2025, was presented by Pr. Charles Kouanfack (technical and scientific co-coordinator of CREMER, Cameroon) & focused on "Efficacy and safety of dolutegravir-based first-line ART in sub-Saharan Africa – Results of the NAMSAL trial."



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