

## **Accelerating Access Initiative (AAI) - Fact Sheet**

**More than 738,000 people living with HIV in developing countries receiving antiretroviral (ARV) treatment with medicines provided by the AAI as of September 2006**

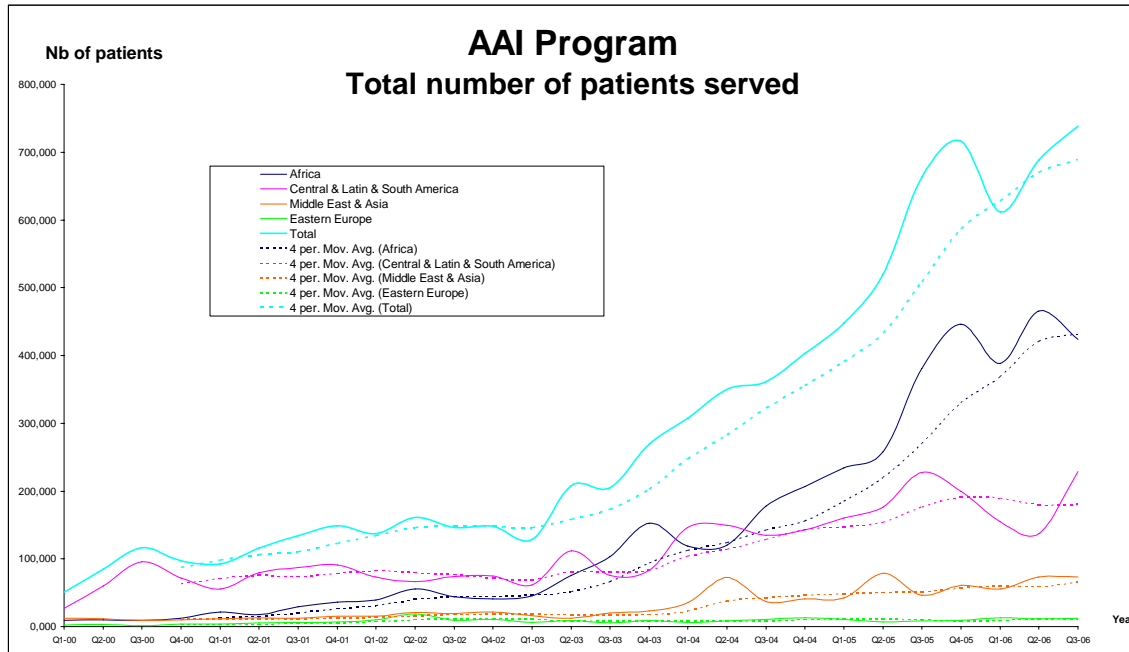
- Established in 2000, the Accelerating Access Initiative (AAI) involves seven research-based pharmaceutical companies; Abbott, Boehringer Ingelheim, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Gilead Sciences, GlaxoSmithKline, Roche, and Merck & Co., Inc, and five United Nations partners; UNAIDS, the World Health Organization, World Bank, UNICEF, and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).
- The AAI combines pharmaceutical industry research knowledge with that of its partners to establish practical, long-term solutions that help to improve access to HIV healthcare in resource-limited countries.
- The AAI companies remain committed to dialogue with all external organisations sharing similar goals to help people living with HIV/AIDS in developing countries. AAI members are actively engaged with many groups focused on improving access to therapy.

### **Data on patients receiving treatment with ARV medicines provided by the AAI companies**

- By the end of September 2006, more than 738,000 people living with HIV/AIDS in developing countries were receiving treatment with at least one ARV medicine provided by the AAI companies.
- In the past two years, the total number of patients in developing countries receiving treatment from the AAI companies has more than doubled, with an increase of 104% since September 2004.
- In Africa alone, over 424,000 patients are being treated with at least one ARV supplied by the AAI companies, an increase of 11% over 12 months. This increase results in a 45-fold increase in the number of people being treated with medicines supplied by the AAI companies in Africa since the establishment of the AAI in May 2000.
- The estimated number of people on treatment is based on actual quarterly drug supply data from the seven companies. The drug unit data were converted into patient-

equivalent numbers by quarter, based on dosage and indications.<sup>1</sup> The data represent units supplied and actual sales, and the analysis is conducted independently.<sup>2</sup>

- Below is a graph of the growth in estimated number of patients treated since the AAI began.<sup>3</sup>



Non adjusted results		Total number of patients																									
Regions	Q1-00	Q2-00	Q3-00	Q4-00	Q1-01	Q2-01	Q3-01	Q4-01	Q1-02	Q2-02	Q3-02	Q4-02	Q1-03	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04	Q1-05	Q2-05	Q3-05	Q4-05	Q1-06	Q2-06	Q3-06
Africa	9393	9737	9574	12092	21203	17373	28047	36102	39510	55202	44155	40662	45547	75145	103499	152828	118697	119971	178381	206419	234398	258253	380955	446584	388632	465883	424001
Central & Latin & South America	26624	60156	95527	71440	55757	79207	87178	90811	72838	65944	74235	74954	61379	111843	75522	83427	146535	149432	135016	142889	160475	176744	227265	199652	155015	137443	22632
Middle East & Asia	12222	11248	9551	10016	11701	13372	12201	15271	15118	20952	18917	21252	15957	11994	20151	23301	35641	72599	37213	40975	42164	78546	45906	61031	55239	73383	73525
Eastern Europe	2512	3256	1422	3927	3902	5379	5824	6787	10025	18751	8920	11000	5922	8934	5607	9193	6473	8115	10944	13132	10724	7067	8708	8901	13047	11786	12494
Total	50750	84396	116074	97473	92563	115331	134249	148971	137491	160848	146226	147867	128705	207915	204779	268748	307346	350117	361554	403415	447761	520610	662834	716168	611933	688495	738952

4 quarters moving average results		Total number of patients																									
Regions	Q1-00	Q2-00	Q3-00	Q4-00	Q1-01	Q2-01	Q3-01	Q4-01	Q1-02	Q2-02	Q3-02	Q4-02	Q1-03	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04	Q1-05	Q2-05	Q3-05	Q4-05	Q1-06	Q2-06	Q3-06
Africa				10199	13152	15060	19929	25931	30508	39965	43740	44982	46391	51377	66213	94255	112540	123749	142469	155967	184792	219363	270006	330049	368606	420514	431275
Central & Latin & South America				63437	70720	75483	73395	78238	82508	79193	75957	71993	69128	80603	80925	83043	104332	113729	128602	143468	146953	153781	176843	191034	189669	179844	180186
Middle East & Asia				10759	10629	11160	11822	13136	13990	15885	17564	19059	19269	17030	17338	17851	22772	37923	42188	46607	48238	49725	51898	56912	60181	58890	65795
Eastern Europe				2779	3126	3657	4758	5473	7004	10347	11121	12174	11123	8669	7840	7389	7551	7347	8681	9666	10729	10467	9908	8850	9431	10611	11557
Total				87173	97627	105360	109904	122779	134011	145390	148384	148108	145912	157678	172317	202537	247197	282747	321941	355608	390712	433335	508655	586943	627886	669658	688812

Notes to editors

- The Accelerating Access Initiative (AAI) was launched in May 2000 and is based upon the principles set out in the attached Joint Statement of Intent. The AAI is a partnership of five United Nations organizations (UNAIDS Secretariat, WHO, UNICEF, UN Population Fund, and the World Bank) and seven research-based pharmaceutical companies (Abbott, Boehringer Ingelheim, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Gilead Sciences, GlaxoSmithKline, Roche, and Merck & Co., Inc.), designed to improve access to more affordable HIV-related medicines and diagnostics for developing countries and those hardest hit by the epidemic, in the context of a broader framework of care,

treatment and support. All of the members of AAI subscribe to the principles in the Joint Statement of Intent. The AAI has been a country-led process, responding to the priorities and needs identified at the national level.

2. The figures announced today are an estimate of the number of patients who have been treated with antiretrovirals supplied by the seven companies in the countries of the regions mentioned. The summary data are attached, together with a graph of the growth in estimated number of patients treated since the AAI began. (This figure shows both the actual numbers as reported (dotted lines) and 4-quarter moving averages (solid lines). The moving averages provide a clearer view of the long-term trends in patient numbers, since they smooth the quarter-by-quarter variations that can occur due to tenders or other unusual buying patterns.)
3. The estimated number of people on treatment was based on actual quarterly drug supply data from the seven companies, provided on a confidential basis, for independent analysis, by each individual company to Axios International, a third party with experience in the area of HIV/AIDS care in the developing world. The drug unit data were converted into patient-equivalent numbers by quarter, based on dosage and indications. The estimated patient numbers are a conservative estimate of the number of people actually treated with antiretrovirals in developing countries, since they do not take into account such factors as patient adherence to therapy, the number of children treated, use of other drugs, and drug wastage.
4. The fact that this analysis was based on drug units supplied and converted into estimated patient numbers offers a number of advantages and limitations compared to formal country surveys. The data are collected precisely and consistently as they represent units supplied and actual sales. The analysis is therefore underpinned by reliable data. The calculated number of patients represents only an estimate of the number of patients treated by antiretrovirals supplied by the seven companies in the Accelerating Access Initiative. The figures announced today do not represent an estimate of the *total* number of patients treated in these countries, as they do not take into account the patients treated with antiretrovirals supplied by other companies. Thus, due to the factors noted above, the actual number of patients treated is likely to be higher than the reported figure of 738,652.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The estimated patient numbers are a conservative estimate of the number of people actually treated with antiretrovirals in developing countries, since they do not take into account such factors as patient adherence to therapy, the number of children treated, use of other drugs, and drug wastage. For further information, please see: Accelerating Access Initiative: Widening access to care and support for people living with HIV/AIDS. Progress report June 2002.

<sup>2</sup> The calculated number of patients represents only an estimate of the number of patients treated by ARVs supplied by the AAI companies. The figures do not represent an estimate of the *total* number of patients treated in these countries, as they do not take into account the patients treated with antiretrovirals supplied by other companies.

<sup>3</sup> This figure shows both the actual numbers as reported (dotted lines) and 4-quarter moving averages (solid lines). The moving averages provide a clearer view of the long-term trends in patient numbers, since they smooth the quarter-by-quarter variations that can occur due to tenders or other unusual buying patterns.

<sup>4</sup> A further explanation of the possible limitations of the data and a fuller analysis of the reasons for thinking that the patient estimates are a lower bound are found in Annex 3 of the report cited in footnote 1. Given that most of the limitations imply that the actual number of patients is higher than the number calculated in this analysis, it is safe to consider that the numbers provided in this analysis constitute a very conservative estimate of the number of patients actually treated with antiretrovirals supplied by the seven companies in the Accelerating Access Initiative. A 20-50% increase in the calculated number would likely be closer to the real figure.