



# HIV/HEP B UPDATE

December 1, 2008 By Lei Chou

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Two new sets of guidelines—from the National Institutes of Health and an international panel of experts (published in *AIDS* in June 2008)—inform treatment choices for people coinfecting with HIV and hepatitis B (HBV). The new information includes:

HBV viral load (HBV DNA) has emerged as a strong indicator of disease progression. Along with a comprehensive liver assessment, a hepatitis B viral load test should guide treatment decisions. Three HIV drugs also treat HBV, and your HIV combo should include two of them: Viread (tenofovir) plus either Emtriva (emtricitabine) or Epivir (lamivudine). An HIV combo that includes two active HBV drugs may help prevent or delay HBV drug resistance while also suppressing HIV.

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<http://beta.docker.poz.com/article/hepatitis-drugs-hiv-15645-9556>