Anthropometric characteristics and changes with HIV and ART in a randomly selected population in the Drakenstein region Western Cape Province

By

Dillan Charles Beukes

MSc (Physiological Sciences)

Thesis submitted in complete fulfilment of the requirements for the Degree Magister Scientiae in the Department of Physiological Sciences, in the Faculty of Science at Stellenbosch University.

Supervisor : Dr. Theo A Nell

Co-Supervisor : Prof. M Faadiel Essop

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I dedicate this thesis to all HIV sufferers

“We must love, encourage and inspire people who are HIV-positive.”

Nelson Mandela
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List of abbreviations

AIDS     Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
ANOVA    Analysis of Variance
ART      Antiretroviral Therapy
ARV      Antiretroviral
AZT      Zidovudine
BCM      Body Cell Mass
BF       Body Fat
BIA      Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis
CCR4     Chemokine Receptor type 4
CCR5     Chemokine Receptor type 5
CD4      Cluster Designation four
DDI      Didanosine
DEXA     Dual energy x-ray absorptiometry
D4T      Stavudine
DNA      Deoxyribonucleic acid
ECM      Extracellular Mass
EFV      Efaviranz
FM       Fat Mass
FFM      Fat Free Mass
FTC      Emtricitabine
GCP      Good Clinical Practice
HAART    Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy
HC       Hip Circumference
HIV      Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HREC     Human Research Ethics Committee
IRSI     Immune Reconstitution Inflammatory Syndrome
ISAK     International Society for the Advancement of Kinanthropometry
LBM      Lean Body Mass
LOP/r    Lopinavir/Ritonavir
LSD      Least Significant Difference
MUAC     Mid-upper Arm Circumference
NNRTIs   Non Nucleolus Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors
NRTIs    Nucleolus Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors
NVP      Nevirapine
PI       Protease Inhibitors
PLWHA    People Living With HIV/AIDS
RMR      Resting Metabolic Rate
SAT      Subcutaneous Adipose Tissue
STI      Sexually Transmitted Diseases
TBCa     Total Body Calcium
TBK      Total Body Potassium
TBM      Total Body Mass
TBW      Total Body Water
TSF      Triceps Skinfold
UNAIDS   The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS
UNMDG    United Nations Millennium Development Goals
VAT      Visceral Adipose Tissue
vRNA     Viral Ribonucleic Acid
WC       Waist Circumference
WHO      World Health Organisation
WHR      Waist-to-Hip Ratio
W:Ht     Waist-to-Height Ratio
3TC      Lamivudine
ABSTRACT

Background

Highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART) has extended life expectancy and enhanced the well-being of HIV-positive individuals. Since there are concerns regarding HAART-mediated onset of cardio-metabolic diseases in the long-term, we evaluated the anthropometric profile of HIV-infected individuals in the Drakenstein District (Western Cape, South Africa).

Objective of study

The primary objective of this study was to document the anthropometric characteristics within and HIV infected population in the Drakenstein region of the Western Cape Province of South Africa.

Methods

HIV-positive patients (n=44 males, n=102 females; 20-40 yrs.) were recruited for three groups: 1) control (HIV-naïve), 2) HIV-positive (HAART ≤ 0-36 months), and 3) HIV-positive (HAART ≥ 36 months). Participants underwent a) anthropometric (triceps skin fold [TSF], and b) bioelectrical impedance measurements (body cell mass [BCM], fat free mass [FFM], protein, muscle mass [MM], mineral, total body potassium (TBK) and calcium (TBCa), glycogen, and fat mass [FM]).

Results

Our data reveal that HIV-positive males on HAART ≤ 0-36 months displayed a trend for lower body cell mass (BCM), fat free mass (FFM), fat mass (FM), triceps skinfold (TSF) and protein content (vs. control). Females exhibited reduced BCM (p=0.001) and lower protein (p=0.003), muscle mass (p=0.001), glycogen (p=0.001), FM (p=0.0005) and FFM (p=0.002) content. However, with longer-term treatment (HAART ≥ 36 months), females displayed higher BCM (p=0.0001), protein (p=0.01), muscle mass (p=0.0003), glycogen (p=0.0001), FM (p=0.00003) and FFM (p=0.0002) vs. the 0-36 months treatment group. Their waist-to-hip ratio also increased vs. the naïve female group (p=0.02). By contrast, males on HAART ≥ 36 months did not show any significant increases vs. the HAART ≤ 0-36 month’s group.

Conclusions

This study demonstrates observed striking gender-based anthropometric differences in South African HIV-positive individuals on HAART. While both genders initially exhibit muscle wasting, HIV-positive females show a strong improvement with longer-term treatment vs. males. However, higher abdominal fat accumulation in females with longer-term treatment potentially increases their risk for the future onset of cardio-metabolic complications.

Key words: HIV, anthropometry, epidemiology, BIA
**Opsomming**

**Agtergrond**

Hoogs-aktiewe anti-retrovirale terapie (HAART) het beide die lewensverwagting en lewenskwaliteit van MIV-positiewe individue verhoog. Omrede daar kommer uitgepsreek is oor die HAART gemedieerde aanvang van kardio-metaboliese siekte oor die langtermyn, het ons die antropometriese profile van MIV geïnfecteerde individue in die Drakenstein Distrik (Wes-Kaap Provinsie, Suid Afrika) ondersoek.

**Doel van die studie**

Die primêre doel van die studie was om die antropometriese eienskappe van ’n MIV-geïnfecteerde populasië in die Drakenstein omgewing van die Wes-Kaap Provinsie van Suid Afrika te ondersoek. Daar is ook verder gepoog om die verwantskap hiermee met die risiko vir kardiometaboliese siekte te probeer vastel.

**Metodes**

MIV-positiewe pasiënte (n=44 mans, n=102 vroue; 20-40 jr.) is gewerf in drie groepe: 1) **kontrole** (HIV-naïef), 2) MIV-positief (HAART ≤ 0-36 maande), en 3) MIV-positiewe (HAART ≥ 36 maande). Deelnemers het a) antropometriese evaluering ondergaan (trisepsvelvou [TVV], en b) bio-elektriese impedansie metings (liggaamsmassa [LSM], vetvrye massa [VVM], proteïen, spiermassa [SM], minerale, totale liggaamkalium (TLK), en kalsium (TLCa), glikogeen, en vetmassa [VM]).

**Resultate**

Ons data toon aan dat MIV-positiewe mans op HAART ≤ 0-36 maande ‘n laer neiging tot LSM, VVM, VM, TVV en proteïeninhoud het vergeleke met die kontrole. Vroue het ‘n verlaagde LSM opgelever (p=0.001) sowel laer proteïen (p=0.003), spiermassa (p=0.001), glikogeen (p=0.001), VM (p=0.0005) en VVM (p=0.002). Hoewel, met lang-termyn behandeling (HAART ≥ 36 maande), het vroue ‘n hoër LSM (p=0.0001), proteïen (p=0.01), spiermassa (p=0.0003), glikogeen (p=0.0001), VM (p=0.00003) en VVM (p=0.0002) opgelever vs. die 0-36 maande behandelingsgroep. Hulle middel:heup verhouding het ook betekenisvol verhoog vs. die kontrole vroue groep (p=0.02). Kontrasterend het die mans op HAART ≥ 36 maande geen betekenisvolle toenames vs. die HAART ≤ 0-36 maande groep opgelever nie.

**Gevolgtrekking**

Hierdie studie demonstreer treffende geslagsgebaseerde antropometriese verskille in n Suid Afrikaanse HIV-positiewe populasië wat op HAART is. Terwyl beide geslagte aanvanklik spierwegkwyning vertoon het, het die MIV positiewe vroue ‘n goeie verbetering met lang-termyn behandeling vs die mans opgelever. Alhoewel daar hoër abdominale vetophoping in die vroue waargeneem is wat op langtermynbehandeling is, kan dit hulle risiko vir toekomstige aanvang van kardio-metaboliese siekte komplikasies verhoog.

**Sleutelwoorde:** MIV, antropometrie, epidemiologie, BIA.
CHAPTER 1

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and motivation

This chapter serves as orientation presenting the context of the thesis. The steps involved in the conception and research executed is illustrated in Figure 1.

![Figure 1: Contextual framework of the dissertation](image_url)

Approximately 60 million people have been infected with HIV since the outbreak of the epidemic in the early 1980’s. Sub-Saharan Africa is the region most affected and is home to 67% of all people living with HIV and 25 million people have died of HIV-related causes (UNAIDS, 2010).

South Africa still has the largest HIV population in the world (UNAIDS, 2010; World Health Statistics, 2009; UNAIDS, 2008; Statistics South Africa, 2009). The number of people living with HIV increased from approximately 4.1 million (2001) to an estimated 5.6 million (2009). Women in the age group 25-29 years are the worst affected with prevalence rates of up to 40%. It is estimated that there is a 10% prevalence among men older than 50 years (UNAIDS, 2010).

HIV prevalence is highest in two of the wealthiest sub-Saharan countries, South Africa (18.8%) and Botswana (24.1%) (UNAIDS, 2008). An updated version of this report estimated a slight decline in the prevalence but still considered the highest world-wide (UNAIDS, 2010).

The estimated average prevalence of HIV infection in the Western Cape Province (2002) was 10.7% which decreased during 2005 (1.9%) and increased until 2008 (3.8%). Much of this decreased prevalence could be attributed to the ART that was initiated (UNAIDS, 2008). Two Cape Town metropole health areas of Khayalitsha and Gugulethu/Nyanga registered prevalence rates of 33.0% and 29.0% respectively, high above the national average.
The statistics for the Boland district indicate similar patterns of prevalence but no clear data is available to corroborate the exact statistics.

1.2 Use of anthropometry in body composition changes

Many researchers employ different anthropometrical indices to describe body composition and also associate this with outcomes before or during disease states as well as assessment of nutritional status (Banda et al., 2007). Anthropometry is a non-invasive, inexpensive method to evaluate and characterise body composition or changes as a result of intervention or monitoring health and disease (Salomon et al., 2002).

1.2.1 Anthropometrical changes associated with HIV infection

Anthropometrical (body composition) changes are common in HIV and AIDS (Menezes et al., 2014). AIDS sufferers have significantly lower average weights and mid-arm circumferences compared to controls (Kotler, 2006). HIV is believed to, with progression of the disease; contribute to decrease in body cell mass but no significant change in body fat stores (Bell et al., 1997). Tuberculosis co-infection further increase the risk of decreasing muscle mass. In a study of patients with active TB in the United Kingdom, BMI (13%), muscle mass (13%) and subcutaneous fat stores (20%) were lower in those with TB compared with healthy age-, sex-, and ethnic-matched controls (Onwubalili, 1988).

1.3 Aims and objectives

The study’s main aim was to estimate the mean anthropometrical characteristics, TSF, MUAC, FFM as well as other body composition parameters using conventional anthropometrical methods of an HIV infected population in the Western Cape region (Winelands/Boland) of South Africa.

1.4 Relevance of the study

The South African HIV population’s anthropometrical profiles are unknown. TSF, MUAC and FFM are non-invasive and inexpensive assessments that can help describe the population’s body composition. These and other parameters correlate well with outcomes such as ease of contracting opportunistic infections, nutritional status and disease progression. Using standard methods (ISAK – International Society for the Advancement of Kinanthropometry) to assess body composition profiles and changes over time our study aim to investigate the TSF, MUAC and FFM in providing data that can be used to help understand the characteristics of anthropometry changes in an HIV burdened South Africa. The data can serve as comparison to follow-up studies (prospective-longitudinal) and in nutritional/exercise interventions studies. Long term HIV care and treatment
programmes should also aim in improving quality of life and establish applicable guidelines to meet the goals of the HIV, AIDS and STI Strategic Plan for South Africa (2007-2011).

1.5 Author contributions

The author was responsible for all data collection. All physical parameters were collected (anthropometric variables) by the author. A very comprehensive literature survey was done after which data was analysed by Statistical Consultation Services (Dr Justin Harvey).

Data interpretation and technical editing of all results were done by the author.

1.6 Abstract accepted: Experimental Biology Meeting, San Diego, 26-30 April 2014

Distinct gender differences in the anthropometric profile of South African HIV-positive individuals on highly active anti-retroviral treatment

Theo Nell, Dillan Beukes, M. Faadiel Essop. Cardio-Metabolic Research Group (CMRG), Department of Physiological Sciences, Stellenbosch University, Stellenbosch, South Africa

Highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART) has extended life expectancy and enhanced the well-being of HIV-positive individuals. Since there are concerns regarding HAART-mediated onset of cardio-metabolic diseases in the long-term, we evaluated the anthropometric profile of HIV-infected individuals in the Drakenstein District (Western Cape, South Africa). HIV-positive patients (n=44 males, n=102 females; 20-40 yrs) were recruited for 3 groups: 1) control (HIV-naïve), 2) HIV-positive (HAART ≤ 3 years), and 3) HIV-positive (HAART ≥ 3 years). Participants underwent a) anthropometric (triceps skin fold [TSF], , and b) bioelectrical impedance measurements (body cell mass [BCM], fat free mass [FFM], protein, mineral, total body potassium and calcium, glycogen, and fat mass [FM]).

Our data reveal that HIV-positive males on HAART ≤ 3 years displayed a trend for lower BCM, FFM, FM, TSF and protein content (vs. HIV-naïve). Females exhibited reduced BCM (p=0.001) and lower protein (p=0.003), muscle (p=0.001), glycogen (p=0.001), FM (p=0.0005) and FFM (p=0.002) content. However, with longer-term treatment (HAART ≥ 3 years), females displayed higher BCM (p=0.0001), protein (p=0.01), muscle (p=0.0003), glycogen (p=0.0001), FM (p=0.00003) and FFM (p=0.0002) vs. the short-term treatment group. Their waist-to-hip ratio also increased vs. the naïve female group (p=0.02). By contrast, males on HAART ≥ 3 years did not show any significant increases vs. the HAART ≤ 3 years group. This study demonstrates observed striking gender-based anthropometric differences in South African HIV-positive individuals on HAART. While both genders initially exhibit muscle wasting, HIV-positive females show a strong improvement with longer-term treatment vs.
males. However, higher abdominal fat accumulation in females with longer-term treatment potentially increases their risk for the future onset of cardio-metabolic complications.

1.7 Structure of the dissertation

The thesis is divided into five chapters. A short introduction outlines the structure and contents of each chapter.

The first chapter orientates the reader to the motivation and objectives of the study. The role of anthropology as an assessment tool in HIV infected patients is highlighted as well as the accompanied body composition changes associated with the use of highly antiretroviral therapy (HAART). The relationship between these changes and the increased risk of cardiovascular disease in this population is emphasized.

The second chapter of the thesis consists of a review of recent literature.

In Chapter 3, the methods used in the data collection are meticulously presented followed by the results of the study (Chapter 4).

Chapter 5 summarise the discussion and conclusions of this study and recommendations for further research and applications are made.

The results of this research have already been prepared in a manuscript for publication in the International journal of Aids Reviews.

The contributions of the researcher were as follow:

The researcher had undergone Good Clinical Practice Certification through Tygerberg Human Ethics Board. He was also trained and accredited as a Level 1 technician anthropometrist. During the first part of the study he was responsible for the questionnaire development, testing and interviews. He also collected all anthropometrical assessments (conventional and BIA) and captured the data on MS Excel 2010.
CHAPTER 2 LITERATURE SURVEY

This chapter focuses on a recent literature survey that focuses on the global, regional and provincial statistical outlook on HIV infection. The literature survey will also focus briefly on the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) situation in South Africa, and how it is treated and monitored. The use of anthropometrical techniques and body composition will be integrated in this context in which its usefulness in chronic disease monitoring will be highlighted.

2.1 Introduction
The United Nations Millennium Development Goals (UNMDG) consists of eight goals in which 191 UN Member States agreed upon, and strive to achieve by the year 2015 (WHO, 2012). The United Nations Millennium Declaration also commits world leaders to combat poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, environmental degradation, and discrimination against women (WHO, 2012). The UNMDGs are derived from this Declaration, and all have specific targets and indicators.

At the end of 2011, 34 million people were living with HIV (UNAIDS Global Report, 2012). During that year approximately 2.5 million people became newly infected, and 1.7 million died of AIDS, including 330 000 children (UNAIDS Global Report, 2012). More than eight million people in low- and middle-income countries were receiving antiretroviral (ARV) therapy at the end of 2011. The majority of the people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) still occur in Sub Saharan Africa (UNAIDS Global Report, 2012). Sub-Saharan Africa still remains the most severely affected region, with nearly one in every 20 adults (4.9%) living with HIV and accounting for ~70% of the people living with HIV worldwide (WHO, 2013). With a total estimated population of 902 million, this region contributes 80% of the total deaths and ~70% of global persons living with HIV (UNAIDS, 2011).
Table 1. Comparison of the 2001 and 2012 data for HIV prevalence globally.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults and children living</td>
<td>30.0 million</td>
<td>35.3 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with HIV</td>
<td>[27.2 million – 33.1 million]</td>
<td>[32.2 million – 38.8 million]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults and children newly</td>
<td>3.4 million</td>
<td>2.3 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>infected with HIV</td>
<td>[3.1 million – 3.7 million]</td>
<td>[1.9 million – 2.7 million]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Adult prevalence</td>
<td>0.8% [0.7 – 0.9]%</td>
<td>0.8% [0.7 – 0.9]%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult and child deaths due</td>
<td>1.9 million</td>
<td>1.6 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to AIDS</td>
<td>[1.7 million – 2.2 million]</td>
<td>[1.4 million – 1.9 million]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young people (15-24)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prevalence (%)</td>
<td>Male 0.4% [0.3 – 0.6]%</td>
<td>Male 0.3% [0.2 – 0.4]%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Female 0.7% [0.7 – 0.9]%</td>
<td>Female 0.5% [0.4 – 0.6]%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Despite these alarming statistics the annual number of new HIV infections among adults and adolescents decreased by 50% or more in 26 countries between 2001 and 2012 (UNAIDS report on the global AIDS epidemic 2013).

Figure 2: Global prevalence rates for HIV per global regions

(UNAIDS report on the global AIDS epidemic 2013).
A report by Lozano et al. (2012) highlighted that in 2010, an estimated 52.8 million deaths had been reported globally. The deaths per year as a result of HIV/AIDS increased from 0.30 million in 1990 reaching a peak of 1.7 million in 2006 and thereafter declined to 1.5 million in 2010 (Lozano et al., 2012). Ischaemic heart disease, stroke, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), lower respiratory infections, lung cancer, and HIV/AIDS were the leading causes of death in 2010 (Lozano et al., 2012).

2.2 HIV burden of disease in South Africa
A comparison of the absolute number of deaths for the ten leading underlying natural causes of death during 2008–2010 shows that HIV disease consistently increased over the three years (Stats SA, 2013). Conversely, the number of deaths due to HIV disease increased by three percent during the same period (Stats SA, 2013). It was further estimated in 2012 that approximately 6.1 million South Africans were living with HIV.

The estimated prevalence of HIV in South Africa had reached 17.9 % (17.3 - 18.4%) during 2012 (AIDSInfo, 2013). The prevalence of HIV is the highest in two of the most developed and wealthiest countries in sub-Saharan Africa, South Africa with 18.9%, and Botswana with 24.1% (UNAIDS, 2008). In South Africa the number of PLWHA has grown from 4.1 million in 2001 to 5.26 million in 2013.
HIV prevalence levels vary geographically between provinces and within provinces. For example, in the Western Cape Province, the HIV prevalence shows an increasing trend over the past decade (Department of Health, Western Cape, 2006). The 2005 Provincial Antenatal HIV Survey calculated an overall HIV prevalence of 15.7% in the Western Cape Province. The Actuarial Society of South Africa’s (ASSA’s) demographic model estimates that there were approximately 220,000 people living with HIV in the Western Cape in 2006. According to this model, this number was expected to increase to approximately 320,000 by 2010 (ASSA, 2005).

Efforts to monitor and respond to the HIV/AIDS epidemic are complicated by the temporal and geographical evolution of the many sub–epidemics at the provincial or even sub-district, level. The interpretation of epidemiological trends is further made more difficult by an inadequate understanding of how different social, behavioral and epidemiological factors influence the dynamics of the epidemic within different settings (Rehle et al., 2004).

Although no recent data exists for the Western Cape HIV prevalence levels by area. Earlier findings had show varying prevalence depending on regions within the metropole and non-metropole areas (Draper et al., 2007; Shaikh et al., 2006).
Two of the Western Cape metro pole areas with the highest prevalence are Gugulethu and Khayalitsha and these ranked among the highest national averages with 33% and 29% respectively (Shaikh et al., 2006). The Western Cape projections for 2013 for women between the ages 15 – 49 years were 12.54% and 7.33% for males (Western Cape HIV/AIDS Infection, Mortality and Fertility Population Projections, 2005).

2.3 Brief physiological background on the HIV

The human body is constantly exposed to threats such as viruses, bacteria and fungi and the immune system’s function is to first identifying such threats by a) detecting antigens present on the “invaders” and b) then trying to effectively neutralise them (Abbas et al., 2012). In cases where the immune system is weakened such as in HIV infection, the body cannot defend itself by these invaders and becomes more vulnerable to infections (Thompson et al., 2010).

2.3.1 HIV Life cycle

HIV infected host cells do not survive for long as a result of HIV replication taking place within the cell. Thus, HIV continuously infects new cells in order to replicate and $10 \times 10^6$ to $10 \times 10^9$ HIV virions are produced each day.
There are six defined phases in the HIV life cycle:

**Binding and entry**

During the binding and entry phase the envelope protein (gp120) and gp 41 bind to the CD4 cell receptors and co-receptors as well as macrophages. CCR5 and CXCR4, also known as chemokine receptors (Lusso, 2006), facilitate viral entry. The HIV membrane and CD4 cell membrane fuses and the virus enters the CD4 cell and macrophage (De Clercq et al., 2009).

**Reverse transcription**

Before incorporation into the host’s DNA, the HIV RNA must be converted to DNA by reverse transcription that is mediated by the HIV reverse transcriptase enzyme. A single strand of DNA is then made from the RNA (De Clercq et al., 2009).

**Integration**

The viral DNA can next enter the nucleus of the CD4 cell where it inserts the viral DNA into the host DNA. For the next phase, viral replication is initiated (De Clercq et al., 2009).

**Replication**

The new DNA formed now initiates the production of messenger DNA from which HIV proteins are produced (De Clercq et al., 2009).

**Budding**

All newly formed viral proteins and vRNA gather at the CD4 cell membrane to form new viruses. After the viruses are constructed they exit the CD4 cell through budding (pushing outward through the wall of the CD4 cell membrane) (De Clercq et al., 2009).

**Maturation**

The newly formed virus has to mature in order to infect more CD 4 cells. In this process the protease enzymes degrade larger proteins into smaller fragments that can be re-assembled to form new viruses (De Clercq et al., 2009).

### 2.4 Pathophysiological consequences of HIV infection

The cardiovascular implications of HIV where observed before the treatments of HIV were established (Reyeskens & Essop, 2013). HIV infection mainly promotes atherosclerosis by metabolic and inflammatory changes, the chronic inflammation due to persistent immune activation and lipid
and other metabolic factors play a major role (Boccara et al., 2013). HIV infection can promote proliferation of vascular smooth muscle and develop atherosclerosis (Eugenin et al., 2008). Chronic immune activation and its subsequent inflammation due to the HIV virus can be associated with changes linked to ageing such as bone demineralization, cancer and immune senescence (Appay & Sauce, 2008). Chronic activation of the immune system seems to be the key factor in the development of cardio vascular diseases due to HIV infection (Reyskens & Essop, 2014).

The HIV infection is linked to known cardiovascular risk factors namely higher cholesterol levels, lipodystrophy and the metabolic syndrome (Ford et al., 2011). The effect of HIV itself on health in the context of disease can only truly be unveiled when the immunological and metabolic system changes are studied; these effects are ongoing even though treatment suppresses the rate of viral replication (Deeks et al., 2010). Some forms of treatment even compound cardio metabolic effects, such as nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs), non-nucleoside revers transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs) and protease inhibitors (PIs).

These risk factors lead to body composition changes such as weight loss in HIV positive individuals, which occurs due to the malabsorption of the intestine that leads to nutrient loss (Hsu et al., 2005). This can damage the intestinal villi and Cryptosporidium can then opportunistically infect the gut (Hsu et al., 2005). The loss of protein and muscle mass are major factors that affect the morbidity and mortality associated with HIV (Little & Phillips, 2009).

Early studies reported that the mortality from HIV is due to the loss of protein stores and fat free mass rather than the loss of weight (Prado et al., 2008; Tan et al., 2009; Baracos et al., 2010). This concept is now well established, eg. Thibault et al. (2012) stated that there is a well demonstrated link between mortality and the loss of fat free mass in patients with chronic diseases. However, immune effects, changes in metabolism, weight, fat free mass loss, and the effects of opportunistic infections all contribute to morbidity and mortality (Hsu et al., 2005; Appay & Sauce, 2008; Little & Phillips, 2009; Deeks et al., 2010; ), and therefore making it difficult to readily discern the level of risk each abnormality poses.

The energy shortage in HIV positive individuals are mostly caused by a reduction in dietary intake, malabsorption, an increase in energy expenditure due to the increased metabolic cost of inflammation and the utilization of atypical energy substrates (Hsu et al., 2005). All these factors combined can lead to an increased energy requirement of 20 – 50% for symptomatic HIV and 10% for asymptomatic HIV (Hsu et al., 2005).
2.5 Treating HIV

2.5.1 HAART

During 2010 only 17.6% of the South African population had access to medical aid, leaving the rest of the country to rely on public health care facilities (Statistics South Africa General Household Survey, 2010). Thus, prior to 2004, antiretroviral treatment was only available to individuals who could afford medical aid and also to those with work place treatment programmes. For the HIV positive population this meant that only 3.8% initiated treatment during 2002-03 (National strategic plan on HIV and STI 2007-2011). However, with the successful ARV roll-out, ARV coverage increased, including approximately eight million people (2009-2012) (UNAIDS Global Report, 2012).

Table 2: The different classes of ARV’s

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NRTI’s</th>
<th>NNRTI’s</th>
<th>PI’s</th>
<th>Fusion Inhibitors (FI’s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zidovudine</td>
<td>AZT</td>
<td>Efavirenz</td>
<td>EFV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamivudine</td>
<td>3TC</td>
<td>Nevirapine</td>
<td>NVP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emtricitabine</td>
<td>FTC</td>
<td>Delavirdine</td>
<td>DLV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stavudine</td>
<td>d4T</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Didanosine</td>
<td>ddl</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenofovir</td>
<td>TDF</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abacavir</td>
<td>ABV</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zalcitabine</td>
<td>ddC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Han et al., 2007)

There are many classes of anti-retroviral drugs but within the public health system the most generally used are the nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTI’s), non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTI’s) and the protease inhibitors (PI’s) (The South African Antiretroviral Treatment Guidelines, 2010). Each class of drug has a different mechanism of action; the NRTI’s incorporate themselves into the viral DNA by the use of the HIV reverse transcriptase halting the elongation of the DNA chain.

NNRTI’s bind to reverse transcriptase, while PI’s bind to viral protease and inhibit the subsequent maturation of virus particles. The other classes namely integrase inhibitors, CCR5 & CCR4 inhibitors and fusion inhibitors are not widely used in the South African public sector (The South African Antiretroviral Treatment Guidelines, 2010).

Triple therapy is used due to the high probability of resistance and clinical progression of HIV-infection with single and dual therapy (Montaner et al., 1998; Ledergerber et al., 1999; Hogg et al.,...
The latter involves the use of three drugs simultaneously mostly from two different classes of ARV drugs (The South African Antiretroviral Treatment Guidelines, 2004). When treatment is initiated the first regimen is introduced, consisting of two NRTI’s and one NNRTI, when this fails or the patient becomes resistant to the medication the second regimen is introduced that consists of two NRTIs and one PI (The South African Antiretroviral Treatment Guidelines, 2010).

During 2010 changes in drug regimens were initiated in South African clinics - due to several side effects. Recently, stavudine (D4T) has been phased out (for first regimen), and currently Tenofovir (TDF) and Lamivudine (3TC) are used as the two NRTIs, and either Efavirenz (EFV) or Nevirapine (NVP) are used as the NNRTI (National Antiretroviral Treatment Guidelines, 2004; The South African Antiretroviral Treatment Guidelines, 2010).

For the second regimen, Didanosine (DDI) had been removed and replaced with Lamivudine (3TC). Currently the two NRTIs are Zidovudine (AZT) and Lamivudine (3TC) and the PI is Lopinavir/Ritonavir (National Antiretroviral Treatment Guidelines, 2004; The South African Antiretroviral Treatment Guidelines, 2010).

A third line therapy is also available, however not for the public sector (WHO, 2010) and reserved for those who can afford the highest standard of care worldwide. More recently, a new fixed drug combination was introduced to the South African health care system – in an attempt to increase adherence. Here one pill is taken once daily, consisting of a combination of TDF, Emtricitabine (FTC) and EFV but still has the efficacy of all three drugs separately (Davies, 2013).

Although medication have improved the quality of life, and also the prognosis of HIV-positive patients they do not come without any adverse effects. Each drug class has side-effects and is summarised in Table 3.
Table 3: Summary of the general side effects of the different ARV’s used in HIV treatment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Mechanism of action</th>
<th>Negative side effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs)</td>
<td>Tenofivir (TDF) Lamivudine (3TC) Stavudine (D4T) Zidovudine (AZT) Didanosine (DDi) Abacavir (ABC) Emtricitabine (FTC)</td>
<td>Inhibits the incorporation of the viral DNA by inhibiting reverse transcriptase (provides faulty building blocks)</td>
<td>Anemia Cardiovascular disease, Lactic acidosis, Central nervous effects, Diabetes mellitus, Dyslipidemia Gastrointestinal effects, Hepatic effects, Lipodystrophy, Osteoporosis, Peripheral neuropathy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs)</td>
<td>Efavirenz (EFV) Nevirapine (NVP)</td>
<td>Inhibits the incorporation of the viral DNA by inhibiting reverse transcriptase (binds to reverse transcriptase)</td>
<td>Central nervous effects, Gastrointestinal effects Hepatic effects, lipodystrophy, osteoporosis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protease inhibitors (PI)</td>
<td>Lopinavir Rotinavir Atazanivir</td>
<td>Blocks protease enzyme, prevention of new virus formation</td>
<td>Cardiovascular disease, Diabetes mellitus, Dyslipidemia, Gastrointestinal effects, Hepatic effects, Lipodystrophy, Osteoporosis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intergase inhibitors (II)</td>
<td>Raltegravir Elvitegravir</td>
<td>Inhibits the activation of integrase, stopping the incorporation of viral DNA into hosts genome</td>
<td>Central nervous effects, Lypodystrophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCR5 inhibitors (CCRI)</td>
<td>Maraviroc Vicriviroc</td>
<td>Prevents the interaction and binding of CCR5 receptor to the glycoprotein 120 needed for entry of virus</td>
<td>Hepatic inhibitors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fusion inhibitors (FI)</td>
<td>Enfuvirtide</td>
<td>Binds to the glycoprotein 41 on HIV virus preventing fusion with host cell</td>
<td>Hepatic effects</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Sungkanuparph et al., 2008; Hawkins, 2010)

2.6 Anthropometry and body composition as health assessment tools in HIV

Anthropometry is defined as the science of acquiring anatomical dimensional measurements (lengths, breadths, girths and skin folds) by means of standardised equipment (Stewart, 2012). Using these measurements, body composition of the human body can be quantified (Stewart, 2012). Monitoring the structure, composition and proportions of the human body can expose certain profiles that are well-described with the progression and precursors of disease states (Cordeiro et al., 2010). For example, fat distribution is one important factor that is used in profiling and risk management of various pathologies and syndromes (Thibault et al., 2012).

Anthropometric techniques can not only be used for profiling for the risk of disease but also discern those who are suffering from pathology, provide insights into the underlying mechanisms of pathology or a health intervention and a method of tracking the effectiveness of interventions (Stewart, 2012). There are several advantages for using anthropometry; (i) it is a portable method, (ii) it is inexpensive, (iii) does not require complicated training, (iv) delivers very close correlations between field techniques and laboratory methods (Fourie et al., 2011).
A relationship exists between the type of anthropometric technique and the relative strength of the risk factor to predict major pathologies. This relationship exposes the principal that cardiovascular and metabolic health risks are more associated with the distribution of body fat rather than the abundance of body fat. Skin folds and waist to hip ratios (WHRs) are widely used for characterizing the distribution of body fat, these methods carry less validity in the evaluation of deep fat deposits (Eston et al., 2009). Computed tomography (CT) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) are considered the gold standard, and able to measure the deep fat but is not cost effective (Rolland, 2013; Wells, 2012).

2.7 Bio electrical impedance analysis (BIA) as health assessment tool in HIV

BIA utilizes the electrical potential of biological tissues (Stahn et al., 2012). This is attained by applying a constant alternating current and measuring the voltage potential that results from that current (Stahn et al., 2012). Different biological tissues conduct electricity at different rates, at varying frequencies biological tissues act as insulators or conductors and current flowing through a system will follow the path of least resistance; these are the basis for this technique, e.g. to determine fat mass (FM) and fat free mass (FFM). FM contains meagre amounts of water and does not conduct electrical current very well while FFM has an abundance of water (with electrolytes) making it a good conductor of electrical current (Stahn et al., 2012).

From measuring the time it takes for the current to reach its destination at different frequencies total body water (TBW) as well as total body mass (TBM) can be calculated.

With body composition analysis the main tissue that we are interested in is the adipose tissue (fat). Subsequently, it is easy to determine the amount of lean tissue. This is an easy way to determine the changes that occur in the whole body and give an indication of disease progression or a precursor for disease states (Thibault & Pichard, 2012).

2.8 Body composition changes associated with HIV and ARV medication

Body composition can be considered as the chemical or physical components that collectively make up an organism’s mass, defined in a systematic manner (Stewart, 2010). In order to study or evaluate different aspects of the components of the body we need to know the sub-units in which the components come from.
2.9 The levels of human body composition

Body composition and structure can be explained and described using organizational levels. These levels range from chemical and molecular to anatomical, cell, tissue, organ, system and whole organism (Wang et al., 1992; Eston et al., 2009).

![Diagram of human body composition levels]

**Atomic level**

Although there are more or less 50 in total elements in total, 98% of the human body mass consists of only six elements (hydrogen, oxygen, carbon, nitrogen, phosphorous and calcium) (Eston et al., 2009). For example, by examining nitrogen content at this level it can provide information regarding proteins.

**Molecular level**

There are over 100 000 varieties of molecules in the human body, however the most common are; water, protein, lipids, minerals and carbohydrates (Stewart, 2012).
**Cellular level**

Here the body is divided into total BCM, extra cellular solids and fluids. The total cell mass include adipocytes, myocytes and osteocytes (Eston et al., 2009; Stewart, 2012).

**Tissue level**

This level constitutes the functional arrangement of cells. Muscle tissue is under normal conditions the most abundant tissue in the human body (Stewart, 2012). The other categories of tissue include connective, epithelial, muscular and nervous tissue.

**Whole body level**

The whole body consider the human body as a single functional unit with overall size, shape and surface area, density and external characteristics (Eston et al., 2009). Each of these levels aims to continuously maintain a state of homeostasis (Eston et al., 2009). In cases where there is a perturbation of homeostasis (e.g. chronic HIV-infection) imbalances occur leading to decline in health and progress to diseases.

There is substantial evidence that HIV-infection not only by itself but also the treatment thereof can cause anthropometrical changes to the body as stated by Atkinson et al. (2013). For example, in HIV-positive patients a decrease in protein and increase in lipids at the molecular level causes a lower cell mass at the cellular level. This then causes a decrease in skeletal muscle and increase of adipose tissue at the tissue level. This is all manifested at the whole body level as a decrease in triceps skinfold (TSF), mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) and lipoatrophy of the extremities and lipohypertrophy of the trunk and abdominal region (Burgoyne et al 2005; Scherzer et al., 2011; Evans et al., 2013; Boccara et al., 2013;).

Weight loss is a common occurrence with HIV and has been correlated with the disease progression and mortality (Ludy et al., 2005; Li et al., 2012). Before HAART, weight loss was the main indicator of disease progression since not only fat mass is lost, but muscle wasting also occurred, Thus it is important to note that survival is closely related to lean body mass (Mangili et al., 2006).

**2.9.1 Body mass index (BMI)**

Body mass index (BMI) is a simple index of weight-for-height that is commonly used to classify underweight, overweight and obesity in adults. It is defined as the weight in kilograms divided by the square of the height in metres (kg/m$^2$) (WHO, 2013). This index reflects the body build and composition and is well established in anthropometry or over a century (Eston et al., 2009). Even though this is a universal method it is not always applicable to all conditions, one problem is that it
does not account for muscle mass as well as fat distribution (Vasques et al., 2009). BMI would not be a good indicator of fatness were sacopenic obesity is concerned (Eston et al., 2009), however a relation between survival and BMI has been observed particularly due to treatment as it reflects improved health (Crum-Cianflone et al., 2010) and the fact that it is based from measurement that can be done almost anywhere serves as a practical assessment tool (Eston et al., 2009).

### Table 4: BMI classification and cut off points.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Principal cut-off points</th>
<th>Additional cut-off points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Underweight</td>
<td>&lt;18.50</td>
<td>&lt;16.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Severe thinness</td>
<td>16.00 - 16.99</td>
<td>16.00 - 16.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Moderate thinness</td>
<td>17.00 - 18.49</td>
<td>17.00 - 18.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Normal range</td>
<td>18.50 - 24.99</td>
<td>18.50 - 22.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overweight</td>
<td>≥25.00</td>
<td>≥25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Pre-obese</td>
<td>25.00 - 29.99</td>
<td>25.00 - 27.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Obese class I</td>
<td>30.00 - 34.99</td>
<td>30.00 - 32.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Obese class II</td>
<td>35.00 - 39.99</td>
<td>35.00 - 37.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Obese class III</td>
<td>≥40.00</td>
<td>≥40.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


A higher body mass index has been reported to be protective against tuberculosis among the HIV-uninfected population, it has also been linked to slowing disease progression in HIV-infected individuals (Hanrahan et al., 2010). Difficulties exist when comparing BMIs between HIV positive and negative individuals and this is due to differences in energy expenditure, lipoatrophy and changes in lean body mass. These are all symptoms of chronic HIV infection and this is quite clear since the uninfected populations generally display lower BMIs than the HIV infected (Delpierre et al., 2007).

Joy et al. (2008) followed HIV-negative and HIV-positive individuals and found that BMI differed significantly between these two groups, males in the HIV-positive group had 1.1kg less fat on there extremities and females 0.85kg less that there HIV-negative group. A lower BMI is a major risk factor for early mortality among HIV-positive individuals initiating ARV treatment (Koethe et al., 2013).

#### 2.9.2 Triceps skinfold (TSF) thickness and the mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC)

More than half our body’s fat stores are subcutaneous which can easily be used to predict the percentage of body fat (Nix, 2013). The TSF thickness is the most commonly used site for the assessment of subcutaneous fat assessment, body composition and nutritional status (Krause et al., 2012). This method measures a double fold of skin and adipose using skin fold callipers; this is a useful non-invasive and easily accessible measurement. The TSF is the most useful measure of body fatness since the most complete standards and methods of evaluation are available for these sites. Skinfold thickness measurements are a better predictor of unfavourable health outcomes (Freedman et al., 2009).
Freedman et al. (2009) reported that BMI and TSF are both accurate in predicting metabolic risk factors such as lipid levels, fasting insulin and blood pressure. George et al. (2009) observed HIV-positive patients with and without lypodystrophy and found at baseline measurements individuals with higher TSF developed lypodystrophy. Even when looking at adults who do not have a vast array of metabolic changes skinfold thickness is accurate in identifying metabolic risk (Freedman et al., 2010).

The HIV infection causes a catabolism of skeletal muscle and other proteins leading to HIV wasting or cachexia, this is the loss of more than ten percent of body weight (Wasserman et al., 2012). HIV wasting can present with or without the loss of fat mass and can contribute to mortality (Gullet et al., 2010). Even though ARVs have become readily available and mortality has been reduced, HIV wasting still remains a problem among the HIV-infected (Liu et al., 2011; Sudfeld et al., 2013).

MUAC measurements are usually taken to assess the change in body weight. The MUAC can further be utilised to assess protein-energy malnutrition as a result of chronic illness (Scherzer et al. 2011). MUAC has been proven as a reliable gauge of muscle mass in atrophy patients (Saito et al., 2010).

Ageing leads to an increase of VAT but subcutaneous adipose tissue (SAT) and total body fat (TBF) increase until the age range 55 – 65 years followed by a decrease (Pou et al., 2009). These changes are seen much quicker in HIV-positive individuals. The measurements of VAT and SAT are not always possible in a field setting as they require sophisticated sonographic equipment or expensive imaging techniques. Therefore, conventional anthropometric assessment such as MUAC and TSF can instead be used to assess the amount of body fat and lean body mass (Scherzer et al., 2011 & Kruger et al., 2012).

Scherzer and collages (2011) found a significant interaction between MUAC and VAT on mortality, when the MUAC was at its lowest an increase in VAT was observed. It has also been reported by independent research that a decrease in MUAC was associated with mortality in older men (Wannamethee et al., 2007; Landi et al., 2010).

According to Lemmer et al. (2011) HIV-positive patients with cardiomyopathy have lower MUAC and BMI when compared to HIV positive patients without cardiomyopathy. These measurements are usually the only options for the assessment of fat and lean body mass in the sub-Saharan setting as rural clinics do not have the resources to do sophisticated body compositional analysis (Kruger, 2012).
2.9.3 Waist circumference (WC), hip circumference (HC) waist to hip ratio (WHR) and waist to height ratio (W:Ht)

WC and HC have been linked to visceral adipose tissue, subcutaneous adipose tissue and therefore total abdominal adipose tissue in males and females (O’Neill et al., 2013). WC has been associated with type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease (Parker et al., 2009; Koning et al., 2010).

O’Neill et al. (2013) concluded that HIV-positive individuals at risk for cardiovascular disease only using WC can be even more sensitive if the hip circumference is also taken into consideration. It is important to note that an increase in HC lessens the risk for diabetes and cardiovascular disease (Parker et al., 2009); this shows the importance of WHR as opposed to just taking the waist circumference.

W:Ht has been predominantly studied in adolescence; it has been associated with metabolic and cardiovascular risks (Maffeis et al., 2008). However, it has not been extensively studied in adult populations that are chronically ill. The cut off or high risk values for W:Ht ratio is greater than 0.5 and also independent of age and sex (Garnett et al., 2008; Sung et al., 2008).

Studies have shown that a negative correlation exists between WHR and CD4 gain (Azzoni et al., 2011). However, HIV-positive individuals having a lower WHR tend to have better immunological recovery outcome compared to those with a higher WHR (Hamdy et al., 2006). A possible explanation would be ARVs have less bio-availability and are being metabolized differently in patients with higher WHR (Azzoni et al., 2011). It can also be due to the metabolic activity of VAT, its secretory factors can regulate the effects of ARVs and interfere with the immune reconstitution process (Hamdy et al., 2006).

2.9.4 Body cell mass (BCM), FFM and FM

BCM is primarily made up of organs and muscle that are metabolically active component of the body (Savvas et al., 2012). BCM is associated with survival since it is involved in oxygen consumption, carbon dioxide production and resting metabolic rate. Conversely, extracellular mass compartment which is made up of bone, collagen and fluids and is associated with structure and transport (Vernaglione et al., 2012).

There are mainly two compartments in the body, FM and FFM that will vary between individuals, FM is composed of 20% water and 80% adipose, while FFM consists of fat free muscle, bone, fat free adipose and water (Eston et al., 2009). FFM, FM and nutritional status are considered the most important evaluations in clinical practice for body composition (Scherzer et al., 2011).
In HIV-infected individuals with co-infections there is a decrease in BCM and protein stores that cannot be tracked only using BMI since there is also an increase in the extracellular volume (Evans et al., 2013). This highlights the importance of the assessment of BCM (Koethe & Heimburger, 2010). However, since BCM is determined by FFM or body potassium, and these are not always available in the clinic or rural setting there is a reliance on BMI, height and weight measurements in this setting due to ease of such measurements.

Malnutrition is occurs frequently among HIV-infected individuals and is mostly due to insufficient intake of protein and energy; it has been associated with viral infections predominantly by intestinal parasites (Koethe et al., 2009). Evans et al. (2013) reported that a mainly high protein nutritional supplement (Future life) taken when on ARVs is associated with increase in immune response, weight, improved physical activity and reversing malnutrition. Furthermore, malnutrition is also associated with a decrease in BCM, while survival is closely related to the amount of lean body mass (Evans et al., 2013).

While the use of ARVs (PIs & NRTIs) are linked to increased weight gain, it is important to distinguish between individuals who are gaining weight and lean body mass, and those who are gaining fat and losing lean mass (Thibault et al., 2012). An increased prevalence of obesity when associated with chronic disease and the loss of FFM will result in higher prevalence of sarcopenic obesity. With sarcopenic obesity body composition measurements, BIA is able to measure FFM loss unlike weight evaluations and BMI (Thibault & Pichard, 2012).

Swaminathan et al. (2008) reported lower FM in a sample female population that were HIV-positive and TB positive or negative when compared to HIV-negative women. FFM and BCM were also lower among HIV-positive TB positive or negative makes when compared to HIV-negative counterparts.

2.9.5 Muscle mass, body protein content & mineral content
As the introduction of HAART has blunted the AIDS-defining complications there has been an increase in age related complications, these are appearing earlier among the HIV-infected population when compared to the uninfected (Deeks, 2011; Buehring et al., 2012).

With advancing age and HIV infection comes the loss of skeletal muscle, it is unclear what contributes to the accelerated muscle loss as the disease itself and also the treatment thereof can contribute to muscle loss (Yarasheski et al., 2011). Wasserman et al. (2013) reported there midlife (45< years) male HIV-positive study population displayed similar levels of muscle loss as older (<70 years) HIV-uninfected persons.
Total body protein can be seen as a measurement of the functional mass of muscle, assessing the BCM or functional component of muscle mass or is important in muscle wasting conditions (Wilson et al., 2013). When BCM is found to be depleted and fat loss is less than BCM loss, protein is being catabolized, one method of estimating the depletion of BCM is estimating protein reserves (Heymsfield, 2005).

The estimation of protein reserves in the body is a common nutritional assessment. Under periods of nutritional stress these stores are depleted and can cause an increase in morbidity and mortality due to a diminished activity of the immune system (Lee & Nieman, 2010). The rate of total body protein turnover decreases with age (Shulman & Peterson, 2012). The loss of functional mass can result in decreases in strength and bone mass (Wilson et al., 2013).

Low bone mineral density plagues the HIV-infected (McComsey et al., 2010). Brown & Qaqish (2006) reported that in HIV-infected patients the prevalence of osteoporosis was three times higher. A two to six percent decrease in bone mineral density is expected within the first two years of treatment (Brown et al., 2009; Duvivier et al., 2009). There appears to be many factors that play a part in the low bone mineral density observed in HIV-infected individuals; (i) Chronic HIV infection, (ii) high tobacco and alcohol use, (iii) low vitamin D levels and (iv) treatment related factors (McComsey et al., 2010).

2.9.6 RMR and TBK and TBCa and Glycogen
Resting energy expenditure or resting metabolic rate (RMR) is defined as the amount of kilocalories required to sustain the basic bodily functions (Mittelsteadt et al., 2013). RMR has been observed to increase in an assortment of medical conditions, such as hypothyroidism, sepsis and untreated HIV infection to name a few (Kosmiski et al., 2012). RMR is also increased under the conditions brought about by lipodystrophy. Lipodystrophy due to HIV-infection can be defined as the loss of subcutaneous fat from the extremities which is directly associated with metabolic distress (Kosmiski et al., 2012). The amount of FM and FFM both regulate RMR as up to 80% of variation in RMR is influenced by body composition (Muller et al., 2009).

BCM and FFM have a specific content of potassium (Sievo & Jebb, 2010). Unlike BCM and FFM, TBK is not influenced by changes in fluid status (Campbell et al., 2008; Wells et al., 2008; Sievo & Jebb, 2010). Therefore, the measurement of TBK is a helpful tool to reinforcing results obtained by BCM and FFM.

Most of the calcium in the body is incorporated into bone, however a small amount resides in extracellular fluid (Baird et al., 2011). Therefore, the measurement of calcium would be a good
indicator of the precise bone mineral changes. Hypocalcaemia or lower levels of calcium in serum have also been linked to high viral loads and decreased CD4 count (Miguez et al., 2012). However, the mechanism for this is still unknown. Hypocalcaemia is common in critically ill patients and in HIV-infected individuals who are treated with Foscavir® (used to treat the herpes viruses and drug resistant cytomegalovirus) have reported developing hypocalcemia (Ryfeldt et al., 1992; Kelly & Levine, 2013).

Glycogen is the stored form of carbohydrates. Most of the cells in the body store glycogen but the highest concentrations of glycogen is found in liver and muscle (Shulman & Peterson, 2012). In well nourished individuals approximately 475g of glycogen are stored, with 325g in muscle, 90g to 110g in liver and 15g to 20 g in blood (McArdle et al., 2010). To our knowledge the changes in glycogen storage with duration of ARV treatment has not yet been studied in an observational design. However, with the loss of muscle mass that is extensively documented (Bonaldo & Sandri, 2013; Sandri, 2013) and the mitochondrial derangement (Wasserman et al., 2013; Payne et al., 2014; Reyskens & Essop, 2014) observed due to HIV infection and treatment thereof. Studying what effect this has on the storage of energy in HIV is essential.

2.10 The link between HAART and increased risk of cardio-metabolic disease

In 1998 the first links between PIs and cardiovascular diseases were reported, myocardial infarctions and increased levels of cholesterol were observed with young HIV-positive individuals (Boccara et al., 2013). Our previous understanding of the pathogenesis of CVD risk entailed lifestyle and genetic factors, but in the last decade factors such as inflammation and immune activation have been proven to account for the pathogenesis of atherosclerosis (Bekau et al., 2007; Ford et al., 2010).

Although HAART has improved life expectancy and quality of life within the HIV-positive populations, many ARVs are known to be hepatotoxic with long term use (Puoti et al., 2009). The use of PIs in the treatment of HIV has been linked to atherogenic lipoprotein changes and endothelial dysfunction (Stein et al., 2001).

The use of PIs and NRTIs has also been linked to hypertension and increased BMI in HIV-infected patients, compared to treatment naïve patients (Grinspoon & Carr, 2005). Studies have also linked HAART to alterations and the flux of certain substrates, including free fatty acids, adipokine levels and reduced PPARγ expression (Brandman et al., 2013; Tong et al., 2003).

HIV PIs can promote direct and indirect effects on metabolism which favour metabolic derangements of glucose and lipid metabolism. These have similar qualities as the metabolic
syndrome, which is a group of risk factors that present as a disorder of the utilization and storage of energy which leads to obesity. The metabolic syndrome increases the susceptibility of the individual to CVD and type 2 diabetes mellitus (Reyskens & Essop, 2014).

McGee et al. (2010) reported an increase in mitochondrial function in HIV positive individuals not receiving ARVs when compared to HIV negative controls, however with six month ARV treatment an indication of mitochondrial respiration gene dysfunction was observed. The ongoing use of NRTIs has been associated with cardiotoxicity and the possible mechanism for this is mitochondrial dysfunction (Liu et al., 2012). When testing this hypothesis in H9C2 cells Liu et al. (2012) observed increasing mitochondrial morphological damage for both Zidovudine (AZT) alone and Zidovudine and Didanosine (DDI).

2.11 Lipodystrophy and HIV
Lipodystrophy syndrome refers to the accumulation of body fat in abnormal locations (Sutinen, 2009). Wasting occurs in the peripheral regions (lipoatrophy) of the body with fat accumulation (lipohypertrophy) occurring at the dorso-cervical fat pad, neck, breasts, abdominal region and buttocks (Moreno et al., 2009). Three main types of lipodystrophy have been identified that occur in association with HIV and HAART; (i) the loss of fat or lipoatrophy, (ii) the fat redistribution due to ARVs, and (iii) subcutaneous adiposity (Moreno et al., 2009).

The fat loss is due to inadequate dietary intake and fat is used as a source of fuel to balance energy needs. Lipodystrophy on its own contributes to the risk for the development of cardiovascular disease, and when the compounding effect of muscle wasting is introduced this combination of effects can be dangerous (Friis-Moller et al., 2010). Lipodystrophy is usually related to insulin resistance, hypertriglyceridemia and changes in subcutaneous fat (Hsu et al., 2005; Friis-Moller et al., 2010).

HAART causes metabolic changes via adipocyte dysfunction leading to lipid and glucose metabolism changes, which cause the lipodystrophy syndrome (Costagliola et al., 2010). The development of resistance to ARVs, or the changes in ARVs might lead to changes in the HIV replication copies (Scherzer et al., 2011).

HIV-positive patients on HAART also undergo changes in lipid metabolism; an increase in the oxidation of fatty acid is observed (Rasheed et al., 2008). There is also an increase in the usage of fat as a fuel source as carbohydrates use is down regulated and proteins are broken down to be used to balance energy homeostasis (Barbaro & Lacobellis, 2009; Sharma et al., 2011). The increase in
lipolysis due to lipoatrophy causes futile cycling as lipid mobilization is insufficient to sustain lipid oxidation (Sharma et al., 2011; Figueiredo et al., 2013).

2.12 Conclusion
The roll out of ARVs has increased quality of life and life expectancy of individuals living with HIV but it has also increased the prevalence of non-communicable disease. It furthermore caused a premature onset of risk for cardiovascular diseases. A significant proportion of the risk factors associated with cardiovascular diseases remain unrecognized due to the dependence on BMI.

The importance of distinguishing between sarcopenic and the traditional obesity is paramount as lean body mass is directly related to increased risk in mortality HIV infected individuals. The weight gain experienced due to HAART can diminish risk because the patient’s physical appearance displays recovery when in fact risk is increasing.

Although the effects of HIV and its body composition changes are well documented for many different populations there is a lack of knowledge in the South Africa with very limited studies completed. It is therefore important to assess these characteristics (in a comprehensive manner) within a South African HIV-positive population.
CHAPTER 3       RESEARCH METHODS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 Study design and population
A descriptive cross sectional study was followed at the TC Newman Community Day Care Centre and Mbekweni Community Day Care Centre in the Drakenstein District, Paarl. These health care units serve as community day care centres and primary health care clinics for the Drakenstein Health District.

HIV positive patients were randomly recruited to be research participants for this study. Subject recruitment was done between the age groups 20 to 40 years. The sampling took place between September 2012 and July 2013.

Figure 6: illustrating Drakenstein Municipality in the Western Cape

Source (Western Cape Government, 2013)

3.1.2 Sample size
We were interested in estimating mean values of several continuous anthropometrical values. We used three parameters (TSF, FFM and MUAC to estimate the sample size). The alpha (α) was set at 5% and the sample size formula used to calculate was calculated as follow (Ludy et al., 2005)

\[ n = \frac{1.96^2 \sigma^2}{d^2} \]

Equation 1: Sample size formula

With a total sample size of 510 all anticipated anthropometrical assessments would be determined with 80% power. To determine our final sample size we needed to recruit at least 85 participants in each of the three treatment groups per gender.
- 85 males and 85 females in the control group
- 85 males and 85 females in 0-36 Months group
- 85 males and 85 females in the >36 months group

This gives us a total sample size of 510. Accounting for possible incomplete data a 10% addition was calculated to give a 560 sample size.

The sample population was carefully chosen to act as a representation of the HIV positive population in the Paarl region of the Drakenstein district. This area constitutes 36.6% of the 8 477 HIV positive patients being treated in the Cape Winelands District and has the highest number of PLWAs in the region followed by the Breede Valley Municipality (Drakenstein Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2011/2012).

3.2 Subject recruitment

At the time of recruitment a total of 1 607 patients were on the outpatient record list for the TC Newman Community day care centre. A random selection process was followed to ensure that results are representative and that findings can be inferred back to the total population.

A total of n= 146 were recruited for this study. We are aware of the fact that we did not achieve the anticipated total of n=560. This issue is discussed in limitations and strengths in Chapter 5, section 4). The administrative nurse at the TC Newman CDC scanned through the patient folders after patients were identified on the patient lists (Computer based) and selected those that met the inclusion criteria. A similar system was used at Mbekweni CDC, where the HIV counsellor screened patient’s files and selected the patients that met our inclusion criteria for the control group.

**Inclusion criteria:**

- HIV positive males or females that are on treatment, and/or newly diagnosed naïve patients (for controls)
- Between and including the age of 20 and 40 years
- Residents of Paarl, Wellington and the Drakenstein region
- Signed informed consent

**Exclusion criteria:**

- Younger than 20 years and/or older than 40 years
- Not a resident of the Drakenstein region
• Not agreeing to take part in the study
• Pregnant females
• Acute diseases at the day of the clinic visit
• Prisoners

3.2.1 Ethical considerations
This study was reviewed and approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) (S12/03/073) of the Stellenbosch University, as well as local Western Cape Provincial Health Department ethical approval (RP100/2012). The researcher had been trained and certified in Good Clinical Practice (GCP) (December 2011) before the commencement of the data collection.

The aims of the study were explained in the volunteering participant’s home language where possible. There were a few instances where participants did not understand the content of the research. In cases such as these a nurse was then asked to assist in explaining what the research entailed. It was made very clear on several time points that the participants are not obliged to take part and that they are free to withdraw at any moment of the data collection. It was also made clear that the research aims are not interfering with seeking primary health care.

After informed consent was obtained by the participants in printed format (both English and/or Afrikaans), the data collection commenced. Anonimity was ensured at all times. No medical information was taken from the CDC premises for any of the participants.

3.2.2 Patient history
The interview schedule of the data collection followed after the participants saw the physician. The questionnaires were standard for each participant. Current living conditions, general health, demographics, diet and exercise were assessed with a short demographic questionnaire. A pre-test BIA protocol check list was also marked off.

3.3 Anthropometrical assessment
All anthropometric measurements were performed according to the International Standard for Advancement of Kinanthropometry (ISAK) (Norton & Olds, 2006; Stewart et al., 2011). The researcher was trained by a Level 3 Instructor as a Level 1 Technician.

3.3.1 Base measurements: height and weight
Research participants were instructed to remove all heavy clothing, shoes and hats. Height measurements were taken using a Leicester™ (Leicester, England) stadiometer. Participants were instructed to stand under the stadiometer and assume the correct anatomical position, with their
head in the Frankfort position to measure then correct and maximal height. Participants were then instructed to inhale in accordance with the stretch stature method.

The height was recorded to the nearest 0.5 cm. Weight was measured to the nearest 0.5 kg using an electronic scale. Body mass index (BMI) was then calculated by dividing the participants weight in kilograms by the height squared (Norton & Olds, 2006; Stewart et al., 2011).

### 3.3.2 Waist and hip circumference measurements

Waist and hip circumferences were measured using a Lufkin (Lufkin, USA) tape measure. The waist circumference was taken between the 10\textsuperscript{th} lower costal rib and the superior iliac crest at the narrowest plane of the abdomen. Hip circumference was taken by measuring the largest area around the gluteal muscles with the participants feet together. These measurements were taken to the nearest 0.1 cm (Norton & Olds, 2006; Stewart et al., 2011).

### 3.3.3 TSF and MUAC measurements

All measurements were done on the right side for all participants. To assess the TSF a calibrated Harpenden skinfold calliper (Harpenden®, UK) was used. First, the acromiale and radiale anatomical landmarks were located. Secondly, the mid-acromiale-radiale was located using a Rosscraft segmenter (Rosscraft®, Canada). This point was taken as the level where the TSF posteriorly was taken and the MUAC was taken by using a Lufkin tape measure. The MUAC was measured to the nearest 0.1 cm. The TSF was then taken parallel to the long axes of the arm at the triceps skinfold site on the posterior surface (Norton & Olds, 2006; Stewart et al., 2011).

### 3.3.4 BIA

The assessment of the BIA variables was obtained using the BioScan 920-II multi frequency analyser (Maltron 920 UK). According to the standard pre-test protocol (Addendum X), participants were asked to remove all jewellery, metal objects as well as cell phones or other electronic equipment as this would interfere with the analysis.

Participants were then asked to assume a supine position on an examination bed.
The legs and arms were spread slightly from the body so that no part was touching. The skin areas, where the electrodes were placed, were cleaned using alcohol swabs (see figure 6).

The testing frequencies ranged between 5, 50, 100 and 200 kHz.

Base measurements, weight, height, age and ethnicity were logged in the Maltron Bioscan 920-II. The participants were then asked to remain still, after which the test commenced.

3.4 Data management
Each research participant that was successfully recruited received a unique identification number. This number (e.g. 0001) was present on the data capturing sheet as well as stored in the memory of the BioScan 920-II multi frequency analyser. It was also not possible to link a number to a participant since the study design was cross-sectional. All data as well as consent forms were collected and stored in the supervisor’s lockable file cabinet in a lockable office.

3.4.1 Statistical analysis
Research participants were grouped into three treatment categories. The first group (control) was described as participants who had been newly diagnosed with HIV but were not yet initiated on treatment. The second group (0-36 months) had been placed on ARV treatment for the timer period indicated. The third group was described as those participants who had been on ARV treatment for more than 36 months group. All data was captured and tabled in Microsoft Office Excel 2010. Data obtained from the study was analysed using Statistica Version 12 (StatSoft Inc, USA). The statistical significant level was taken at p≤0.05. Descriptive statistics were tabled as means and standard error of the mean. The least significant difference (LSD) was used to test comparisons between the treatments (0, 0-36 and >36 months). The analysis of variance (ANOVA) was used to find the least significant difference between any of the means at p = 0.05 (the level of probability chosen for the t value).

3.5 Constraints encountered during the method section and data collection
The timing of the study was a concern since the participants at TC Newman were recruited while they were waiting to see a medical doctor. The participants were first screened by the nurse on duty, after which their patient record files were passed onto us.

This sometimes took time since the nurse had other administrative duties and we spent a lot of time waiting for participants. Some patients only came to the clinics to collect their medication and those patients were not very eager to take part as they had taken time off from work. At TC Newman there was only space available to set up for data collection on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and
Friday. These days overlapped with the days and time that we were able to visit Mbekweni clinic as patients rarely came to the clinic after mid-day.

At Mbekweni clinic, space was not always available to set up for the data collection and therefore we could only go to this clinic three days a week on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. The participants only came to the clinic in the mornings before work and by 11am the clinic was empty. Individuals who were tested and had to come back within two days for test results did not always return, this was more prominent with males and occurred at TC Newman as well. Again, this is showing in the results section for the male participants.

Furthermore, we observed fewer patients at the clinics on days with cold weather and rain, since these individuals are very health conscious and would rather stay indoors in cold weather.

Figure 8: Constraints encountered during study study
CHAPTER 4  

RESULTS

4.1 Context of this chapter
This chapter presents the results of the observational study. The results are presented in an order according to the five level model for body composition (Eston & Reiley., 2009). The results are presented in an intelligible and interpretable format so that association of the research aims and objectives can be studied.

4.2 Characteristics of the participants
All the participants, both male and female [total n= 146; (n = 44 males and n = 102 females)] were of African descent and from the Drakenstein region. The mean age for the males was (33.3±0.69), and for the females were (30.9±0.58). A summary of the characteristics are reported in Table XX. Participants were divided into three treatment groups; 0 = control (n=48; n=13 males and n=35 females), 0-36 months: treatment between zero and 36 months (n=47; n=18 males and n=29 females), > 36 months (n=51; n=13 males and n=38 females): more than 36 months (>36)

Table 5: Summary of anthropometric characterises of all participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Male (n = 44) (Mean±SEM)</th>
<th>Female (n = 102) (Mean±SEM)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age (years)</td>
<td>33.3±0.69</td>
<td>30.9±0.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Height (cm)</td>
<td>170.8±0.84</td>
<td>157.9±0.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight (kg)</td>
<td>62.7±1.6</td>
<td>70.8±1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI (kg/m^2)</td>
<td>21.5±0.54</td>
<td>28.3±0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triceps skinfold (mm)</td>
<td>9.6±1.1</td>
<td>27.5±1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-upper arm circumference (cm)</td>
<td>26.7±0.55</td>
<td>30.9±0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waist circumference (cm)</td>
<td>76.8±1.6</td>
<td>90.6±1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hip circumference (cm)</td>
<td>89.3±1.2</td>
<td>105.3±1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waist to height ratio</td>
<td>0.5±0.01</td>
<td>0.6±0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waist to hip ratio</td>
<td>0.86±0.01</td>
<td>0.86±0.01</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 6: Summary of BIA characteristics of all participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Male (n = 44) (Mean±SEM)</th>
<th>Female (n = 102) (Mean±SEM)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CD4</td>
<td>314±39.9</td>
<td>388.5±23.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body cell mass to Fat free mass ratio</td>
<td>0.587±0.002</td>
<td>0.55±0.0008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resting metabolic rate (kcal)</td>
<td>1776.4±20.6</td>
<td>1553.7±10.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fat free mass (kg)</td>
<td>53.5±0.9</td>
<td>48.3±0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fat free mass percentage (%)</td>
<td>85.9±0.7</td>
<td>70.3±0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fat (kg)</td>
<td>9.2±0.7</td>
<td>22.5±1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fat percentage (%)</td>
<td>14.1±0.7</td>
<td>29.7±0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body cell mass (kg)</td>
<td>30.8±0.5</td>
<td>26.6±0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extracellular mass (kg)</td>
<td>22.7±0.5</td>
<td>21.7±0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protein (kg)</td>
<td>9.2±0.3</td>
<td>9.1±0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mineral (kg)</td>
<td>3.24±0.1</td>
<td>3.71±0.06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Muscle (kg)</td>
<td>27.2±0.5</td>
<td>21.7±0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total body Potassium (g)</td>
<td>146.9±2.1</td>
<td>117.5±1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total body Calcium (g)</td>
<td>1185.3±15.4</td>
<td>972.9±12.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glycogen (g)</td>
<td>521.6±7.6</td>
<td>450.4±6.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 7: Anthropometrical characteristics for the male participants per treatment group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Control (n = 13) (Mean±SEM)</th>
<th>0 – 36 months (n = 18) (Mean±SEM)</th>
<th>&gt; 36 months (n = 13) (Mean±SEM)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age (years)</td>
<td>32.2±1.4</td>
<td>33.2±1.2</td>
<td>34.4±1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Height (cm)</td>
<td>170.1±1.3</td>
<td>170.6±1.5</td>
<td>171.6±1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight (kg)</td>
<td>65.8±3.2</td>
<td>62.4±2.6</td>
<td>60.0±2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI (kg/m²)</td>
<td>22.6±1.0</td>
<td>21.4±0.9</td>
<td>20.4±0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triceps skinfold (mm)</td>
<td>11.4±2.6</td>
<td>10.2±1.9</td>
<td>7.0±0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-upper arm circumference (cm)</td>
<td>27.8±1.0</td>
<td>26.6±1.0</td>
<td>25.9±1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waist circumference (cm)</td>
<td>77.0±2.7</td>
<td>76.9±2.8</td>
<td>76.3±2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hip circumference (cm)</td>
<td>91.4±2.4</td>
<td>89.4±1.9</td>
<td>87.1±1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waist to height ratio</td>
<td>0.45±0.01</td>
<td>0.45±0.02</td>
<td>0.45±0.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waist to hip ratio</td>
<td>0.84±0.02</td>
<td>0.86±0.02</td>
<td>0.88±0.03</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 8: Summary of BIA characteristics of for the male participants per treatment group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Control (n = 13) (Mean±SEM)</th>
<th>0 – 36 months (n = 18) (Mean±SEM)</th>
<th>&gt; 36 months (n = 13) (Mean±SEM)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CD4</td>
<td>255.3±0.02</td>
<td>280.9±0.03</td>
<td>426.3±0.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body cell mass to Fat free mass ratio</td>
<td>0.57±0.004</td>
<td>0.58±0.003</td>
<td>0.58±0.004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resting metabolic rate (kcal)</td>
<td>1829.5±40.4</td>
<td>1762.3±35.5</td>
<td>1742.8±26.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fat free mass(kg)</td>
<td>56.0±2.0</td>
<td>52.7±1.5</td>
<td>51.9±1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fat free mass percentage (%)</td>
<td>85.8±1.1</td>
<td>85.2±1.2</td>
<td>86.9±1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fat (kg)</td>
<td>9.7±1.3</td>
<td>9.7±1.3</td>
<td>8.2±1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fat percentage (%)</td>
<td>14.2±1.1</td>
<td>14.8±1.2</td>
<td>13.1±1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body cell mass (kg)</td>
<td>32.0±0.9</td>
<td>30.5±0.7</td>
<td>29.9±0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extracellular mass (kg)</td>
<td>24.0±1.1</td>
<td>22.3±0.8</td>
<td>21.9±0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protein (kg)</td>
<td>9.8±0.6</td>
<td>9.2±0.6</td>
<td>8.7±0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mineral (kg)</td>
<td>3.45±0.2</td>
<td>3.2±0.2</td>
<td>3.1±0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muscle (kg)</td>
<td>28.4±0.9</td>
<td>27.0±0.8</td>
<td>26.4±0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total body Potassium (g)</td>
<td>152.9±4.5</td>
<td>145.4±3.5</td>
<td>142.9±2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total body Calcium (g)</td>
<td>1228.6±32.2</td>
<td>1174.7±25.2</td>
<td>1156.7±19.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glycogen (g)</td>
<td>542.7±15.7</td>
<td>516.6±12.4</td>
<td>507.5±9.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 9: Anthropometrical characteristics for the female participants per treatment group.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Control (n=35) (Mean±SEM)</th>
<th>0 – 36 months (n=29) (Mean±SEM)</th>
<th>&gt; 36 months n = 38 (Mean±SEM)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age (years)</td>
<td>29.4±1.1</td>
<td>29.7±1.1</td>
<td>33.2±0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Height (cm)</td>
<td>159.1±1</td>
<td>156.2±1.3</td>
<td>158.2±0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight (kg)</td>
<td>73.9±2.8</td>
<td>59.9±2.9</td>
<td>76.3±2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI (kg/m²)</td>
<td>29.2±1.1</td>
<td>24.4±1.1</td>
<td>30.4±1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triceps skinfold (mm)</td>
<td>29.3±2.2</td>
<td>20.6±1.8</td>
<td>30.9±2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-upper arm circumference (cm)</td>
<td>31.3±1</td>
<td>27.7±1.1</td>
<td>33.1±0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waist circumference (cm)</td>
<td>91.3±2.5</td>
<td>83.5±2.6</td>
<td>95.5±2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hip circumference (cm)</td>
<td>108.5±2.1</td>
<td>97.7±2.5</td>
<td>108.3±2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waist to height ratio</td>
<td>0.6±0.02</td>
<td>0.5±0.02</td>
<td>0.6±0.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waist to hip ratio</td>
<td>0.84±0.01</td>
<td>0.85±0.01</td>
<td>0.88±0.02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 10: Summary of BIA characteristics of for the female participants per treatment group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Control (n=35) (Mean±SEM)</th>
<th>0 – 36 months (n=29) (Mean±SEM)</th>
<th>&gt; 36 months (n = 38) (Mean±SEM)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CD4</td>
<td>348.6±0.02</td>
<td>307.9±0.02</td>
<td>483.3±0.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body cell mass to Fat free mass ratio</td>
<td>0.55±0.001</td>
<td>0.55±0.002</td>
<td>0.55±0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resting metabolic rate (kcal)</td>
<td>1579.3±17</td>
<td>1498.4±20</td>
<td>1572.4±16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fat free mass(kg)</td>
<td>49.4±1.1</td>
<td>44.2±1.2</td>
<td>50.4±1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fat free mass percentage (%)</td>
<td>68.5±1.4</td>
<td>75.9±1.8</td>
<td>67.7±1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fat (kg)</td>
<td>24.4±1.8</td>
<td>15.9±1.8</td>
<td>25.9±1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fat percentage (%)</td>
<td>31.5±1.4</td>
<td>24.2±1.8</td>
<td>32.3±1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body cell mass (kg)</td>
<td>27.1±0.6</td>
<td>24.4±0.6</td>
<td>27.7±0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extracellular mass (kg)</td>
<td>22.2±0.5</td>
<td>19.8±0.6</td>
<td>22.7±0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protein (kg)</td>
<td>9.5±0.2</td>
<td>8.2±0.3</td>
<td>9.3±0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mineral (kg)</td>
<td>3.9±0.08</td>
<td>3.4±0.12</td>
<td>3.8±0.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muscle (kg)</td>
<td>22.2±0.5</td>
<td>19.8±0.5</td>
<td>22.5±0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total body Potassium (g)</td>
<td>120.1±2.6</td>
<td>107.8±2.8</td>
<td>122.6±2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total body Calcium (g)</td>
<td>991.5±18.8</td>
<td>902.4±20.3</td>
<td>1009.5±19.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glycogen (g)</td>
<td>460.3±9.9</td>
<td>413.2±10.7</td>
<td>469.5±10.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.3 Anthropometric data between genders and treatment groups.

4.3.1 Body mass index (BMI) (kg/m²)

Approximately ~10% (9.7%) of the sample population were classified as underweight, 41% were in the healthy weight category, whereas, 23.6% were classified under class I overweight, 22.9% were class II obese, and ~3% (2.8%) were classified as morbidly obese. Only one participant had a BMI higher than 40kg/m² (51.2kg/m²).

Figure 9: Distribution of BMI categories within the total sample population.

Sixty four percent of the male population were considered to be at a healthy weight, 18.2% were underweight, 13.6% were overweight, and 4.5% were classified as class II obese (Figure 9).

Figure 10: Distribution of BMI categories for the male population.
Figure 11: Distribution of BMI categories in the female population.

A third of the female population were classified as being in the healthy weight range (30.4%), 5.9% were underweight, 27.5% were classified as overweight, 32.4% were obese, and 3.8% morbidly obese (Figure 10).
No statistically significance per treatment categories was observed in the male population (Figure 11). However, there appears to be a decreasing trend as treatment progressed.

Contrasting, the female population showed a statistically significant decrease \((p = 0.001)\) between the control group and the 0-36 months group, as well as a statistically significant \((p = 0.00005)\) increase between the 0-36 months treatment group and the >36 months treatment group.
4.3.2 Base measurement: weight (kg)

![Graph showing weight according to gender and treatment categories.](image)

**Figure 13: Weight according to gender and treatment categories.**

There were no significant changes observed within the male population per treatment group. Overall there was a general decreasing trend observed with increasing treatment duration.

The female data showed a statistically significant decrease ($p = 0.004$) between the control group and the 0-36 months treatment group, and a significant increase ($p = 0.00003$) between the 0-36 months treatment group, and the >36 months treatment group.
4.3.3 Base measurement: height (m)

Figure 14: Height according to gender and treatment categories.

There were no significant changes observed in either gender per treatment group.
4.3.4 Triceps skinfold (TSF) and mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC)

![Graph showing TSF according to gender and treatment category.](image)

Figure 15: TSF according to gender and treatment category.

Similar patterns were observed in both TSF and MUAC for both genders. All male participants had lower TSF compared to the female population.

It appears that the males diagnosed with HIV and not yet placed on treatment had higher TSF and MUAC's (Figure 14 & 15). After treatment initiation (0-36 months and >36 months) a decreasing trend is observed.

The female population had a statistically significant ($p = 0.002$) decrease in the TSF and MUAC (Figure 14 & 15) between the control group and the 0-36 month treatment group, and a statistically significant ($p = 0.0003$) increase between the 0-36 month and >36 month group.
4.3.4 WC, HC, WHR and W:Ht

Table 11: Cut off values for WC, WHR and W:Ht between genders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>WC</th>
<th>WHR</th>
<th>W:Ht</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High risk</td>
<td>≥94cm</td>
<td>≥80cm</td>
<td>≥0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low risk</td>
<td>&lt;94cm</td>
<td>&lt;80cm</td>
<td>&lt;0.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source (EGIR, 1999; WHO, 1998; Garnett et al., 2008)
Figure 18: The percentage of females with high risk and low risk for WC

Figure 19: The percentage of males with high risk and low risk for WHR

Figure 20: The percentage of females with high and low risk or WHR
No statistically significant changes were observed in the WC (Figure 20) within the male population across the different treatment categories. There was however a slight decreasing trend in the HC (Figure 21). Within the female population data showed a significant decrease ($p = 0.02$) between the control group and the 0-36 months treatment group, and a significant increase ($p = 0.0005$) between the 0-36 months treatment group and the >36 months treatment group. Both waist- and hip circumferences had similar trends as treatment progressed.
Figure 22: HC between the different genders and treatment categories.
Both male and female participants had shown an increased W:H ratio. The male population had a non-significant increase, whereas the female population there was a statistically significant increase ($p = 0.02$) between the control group and the 0-36 months treatment group.
4.3.5 W:Ht

Figure 24: W:Ht between the different genders and treatment categories.

The W:Ht did not show any statistically significant changes within the male population. However, the females initially showed a non-significant decrease between the control group and the 0-36 months treatment group, followed by a statistically significant increase (p = 0.001) between the 0-36 months and >36 months treatment group. It is noted that the male W:Ht ratio values were all below the 0.5 cut off value. Contrasting, the female W:Ht were all above the recommended 0.5 cut off value.
4.3.6 FFM and FFM%

For the male population there was a statistically decreasing trend for the FFM between the different treatment groups.

Contrasting, the female data showed a significant decrease ($p = 0.002$) between the control group and the 0-36 months treatment group, and a significant increase ($p = 0.0002$) between the 0-36 months treatment group and the >36 months treatment group.

Figure 25: FFM according to gender and treatment category.
Figure 26: FFM% between the different genders and treatment categories.

No change with treatment duration was observed for FFM% within the male population.

The female population had statistically significant increase FFM% ($p = 0.0002$) between the control and 0-36 month groups and a significant decrease ($p = 0.00002$) between the 0-36 month group and the >36 month treatment group.
4.3.7 Fat and Fat%

Figure 27: FAT according to gender and treatment category.

Males had no change from control to 0-36 month treatment category. However, from the 0-36 month treatment group to the >36 month treatment group there was a non-significant decrease. The female population had a significant decrease (p = 0.0005) between the control group and the 0-36 group and a significant increase (p = 0.00003) between the 0-36 month group and the >36 month group.
Figure 28: FAT% according to gender and treatment category.

The male population demonstrated a non-significant increase in Fat% for the control group to the 0-36 month treatment group and a non-significant decrease from the 0-36 month treatment group to the >36 month treatment group.

The female population had a significant decrease (p = 0.0002) between the control group and the 0-36 group and a significant increase (p = 0.00002) between the 0-36 month group and the >36 month group.
4.3.8 BCM (kg) and ECM (kg)

![Figure 29: BCM according to gender and treatment category.](image)

Males demonstrated a steady non-significant decrease in BCM as treatment progressed. There was however a statistical trend observed between the control and >36 month treatment groups (p=0.1).

The female population had a statistically significant decrease (p = 0.001) between the control group and the 0-36 group and a statistically significant increase (p = 0.0001) between the 0-36 month group and the >36 month group.
There were no significant changes within the male population over the three year treatment period. A noticeable decreasing trend was shown between the control and 0-36 month group (p=0.1) as well as the 0-36 months group and the >36 month group (p=0.1).

The female data showed a statistically significant decrease (p = 0.003) between the control group and the 0-36 months treatment group, as well as a significant increase (p = 0.0003) between the 0-36 months treatment group and the >36 months treatment group.

Figure 30: ECM according to gender and treatment category.
4.3.9 Muscle mass

Figure 31: Muscle according to gender and treatment category.

Males demonstrated a stepwise decreasing trend in muscle mass from the control group to the 0-36 and >36 month treatment group.

In the female population a significant decrease between control and 0-36 months group (p=0.001), and a significant increase between the 0-36 months and >36 months (p=0.0003) were observed.
4.3.10 Total body protein

Figure 32: Protein according to gender and treatment category.

The total body protein content for the male population showed a non-significant but statistically decreasing trend between the control and >36 month treatment category (p=0.1). In the female population a statistically significant decrease between control and 0-36 months group (p=0.003), and a significant increase between the 0-36 months and >36 months (p=0.01) was observed.
4.3.11 Mineral content

The mineral content in the male population showed a non-significant decreasing statistical trend between the control and 0-36 month treatment category (p=0.1). A further decreasing non-significant trend was also observed between the 0-36 month and >36 month treatment groups.

The female population had a significant decrease (p = 0.001) between the control group and the 0-36 group and a significant increase (p = 0.007) between the 0-36 month group and the >36 month group.

Figure 33: Mineral content according to gender and treatment category.
4.3.12 Resting metabolic rate (RMR)

Males demonstrated a steady decreasing trend in RMR from the control group to the 0-36 month treatment group \( (p=0.1) \) and a further statistical decrease from the 0-36 month treatment group to the >36 month treatment group \( (p=0.05) \).

The female population had a significant decrease \( (p = 0.005) \) between the control group and the 0-36 group followed by a significant increase \( (p = 0.009) \) between the 0-36 month group and the >36 month group.
4.3.13 Total body Potassium (TBK)

Figure 35: TBK according to gender and treatment category.

The changes undergone with treatment duration with regards to TBK, TBCa and glycogen for each gender were similar. However differences between the genders were observed. Males demonstrated a steady statistical decreasing trend in TBK for the control group to the 0-36 month treatment group (p=0.2) and a further statistical decrease from the 0-36 month treatment group to the >36 month treatment group (p=0.1).

The female population had a significant decrease (p = 0.002) between the control group and the 0-36 group and a significant increase (p = 0.0001) between the 0-36 month group and the >36 month group.
4.3.14 Total body Calcium (TBCa)

The results for TBCa are illustrated in the figure 35. Males demonstrated a non-significant but statistically decreasing trend in TBCa as treatment duration increased between the control and 0-36 month group (p=0.2) and the control and >36 month group (p=0.1).

The female population had a significant decrease (p = 0.002) between the control group and the 0-36 group and a significant increase (p = 0.0001) between the 0-36 month group and the >36 month group.
4.3.15 Glycogen

![Glycogen Graph](image)

The glycogen in the male groups showed non-significant but statistically decreasing trend between the control and >36 month treatment category ($p=0.1$), whereas the significant decrease in the female group between control and 0-36 months group ($p=0.001$) and a significant increase between the 0-36 months and >36 months ($p=0.0001$).

Figure 37: Glycogen according to gender and treatment category.
4.3.16 Cluster of differentiation 4 (CD4)

Figure 38: CD4 according to gender and treatment category.

The CD4 counts in the male groups (Figure 37) showed non-significant but an increasing statistical trend between the control and >36 months treatment category (p=0.08) as well as the 0-36 month group and the >36 month group (p=0.1).

A significant increase in the female group was observed between control and >36 months (p=0.02) as well and 0-36 months and >36 months (p=0.02). With regards to CD4 count the male data showed an increasing non-significant trend with treatment duration.
4.3.14  Anti-retrovirals (ARVs)

Table 12: Summary of the percentage medication use per gender between the different treatment groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class &amp; Medication</th>
<th>0-36 months</th>
<th>&gt; 36 months</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Males</td>
<td>Females</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRTIs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenofovir (TDF)</td>
<td>88%(n = 16)</td>
<td>90.3%(n = 28)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamivudine (3TC)</td>
<td>100%(n = 18)</td>
<td>100%(n = 31)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stavudine (D4T)</td>
<td>5.6%(n = 1)</td>
<td>6.5%(n = 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zidovudine (AZT)</td>
<td>0%(n = 0)</td>
<td>3.2%(n = 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NNRTIs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Efavirenz (EFV)</td>
<td>94%(n = 17)</td>
<td>74.2%(n = 23)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nevirapine (NVP)</td>
<td>5.6%(n = 1)</td>
<td>19.4%(n = 6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lopinavir/Ritonavir (LOP/r)</td>
<td>5.6%(n = 1)</td>
<td>3.2%(n = 1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.3.14.1  0-36 Months

**NRTIs**

All male and female patients were on 3TC. The second highest use included TDF for which a higher percentage of females were prescribed TDF compared to 88% males.

**NNRTIs**

Most patients were using EFV followed by NVP.

**PIs**

Low sample size numbers made the observation of n=1 (both genders) incomplete and not representative.

4.3.14.2  >36 Months

**NRTIs**

The highest use of NRTIs were observed for 3TC followed by TDF, as with the 0-36 month group.

**NNRTIs**

A higher percentage of males compared to females were using EFV followed by NVP.

**PIs**

As treatment progressed more patients received LOP/r. However, the low sample size must be considered.
CHAPTER 5 DISCUSSION, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

5.1 Introduction
This chapter discusses the major findings of the study. It is integrated and discussed with current literature and also what the possible implications are. The major findings include; anthropometrical characteristics, use of ARV’s and how this relates to body composition in this population. Under each section, the results will be discussed in a chronological order as it was presented in Chapter 4.

5.2 Major findings of the study
The aims of the study were to describe the anthropometrical characteristics of HIV positive patients and to assess how these would impact on the participants risk for cardio vascular and other lifestyle diseases.

5.2.1 Anthropometrical findings
Here the observation was that males and females responded differently to HAART treatment at different stages of infection. However, we are unable to prove causality with these changes as it is unclear whether the infection or the treatment causes the anthropometric and body compositional changes.

5.2.1.1 BMI and weight
In South Africa the prevalence of overweight (BMI > 25kg/m²) and obesity (BMI > 30kg/m²) is high, with 29% of males and 56% of females categorised as being overweight or obese. It is furthermore estimated that the rates are higher than for other African countries (Goedecke et al., 2006). Thus, the majority of our female sample population were classified as being overweight or obese while the males were predominantly within the normal weight range, and 20% being classified as underweight. We speculate that this finding might be due to cultural and lifestyle choices, some African cultures encourage overeating and associate luxurious (high in fat and energy) with social status (Kruger et al., 2005). African women are less pressured to be slim and relate thinness with illness and HIV/AIDS (Kruger et al., 2005).

South Africa has a wealth of cultural diversity which places various pressures on different ethnic groups about body image (Goedecke et al., 2006). However, our results should be interpreted with caution as they are influenced by age, gender, demographics, ethnicity, culture and socio-economic status. Jacobs et al. (2010) studied non-HIV related mortality and found that the risk factors for mortality with increased central obesity are at both low and high BMI ranges. African and mixed race
women tend to be overweight and obese, however, males of similar ethnic background tend to be more in the normal weight range (Goedecke et al., 2006).

It was established that as treatment duration increased marked changes were observed in BMI between the three groups. Here BMI for males decreased as treatment duration increased, however females in the 0-36 month treatment group displayed a decrease in BMI and there after an increase back to control levels. These results were also supported with the changes in weight, waist circumference and waist-to-hip ratio for females as treatment duration increased.

Esposito (2008) observed an increase in BMI with seventy percent of participants gaining weight when observing thirty females at baseline, 12 and 24 weeks after the initiation of HAART. This is not congruent with our results as we observed a decrease in weight and BMI between our ARV naïve group and our 0-36 month group. This could be due to the longer intervals between data sampling used in our study. However Mosha et al. (2013) reported HIV-positive females had a higher BMI than males after one year of ARV treatment.

Males however, displayed a decrease in BMI and weight with treatment duration but not enough to constitute HIV wasting. The WHO definition for wasting is described as the unexplained loss of more than 10% of weight, or a BMI of less than 18.5kg/m$^2$ (WHO, 2006). For this study approximately 20% of the male and 6% of the female population were in a stage of undergoing HIV wasting. It is well known that opportunistic infections may add to the lower BMIs (17.7 kg/m$^2$) observed in an HIV population compared to patients who do not exhibit opportunistic infections (21.0 kg/m$^2$) (Ludy et al., 2005).

Hanrahan and colleagues (2010) studied BMI and its relation to mortality due to infection within a South African population and observed an increase in mortality with low to normal BMIs. We then observed female CD4 counts to decrease at the 0-36 month treatment group, contrastingly male CD4 counts increase between these two groups. This hypothesis requires further investigation and the underlying mechanism for this observation should be a focus point for future studies.

5.2.1.2 TSF and MUAC

It is well documented from the literature that TSF and MUAC are predictors of survival and also surrogate parameters for the classification of muscle wasting. The male population did not show increases in TSF or MUAC as treatment duration increased. These two parameters are also closely related to survival, as well as risk for co infections (Swaminathan et al., 2008). The female population had an increase in TSF and MUAC with treatment duration suggesting that they have a lower risk of co infection, and an increased chance of survival.
George et al. (2009) observed TSF increasing till ten months and then decreasing till twenty seven months after the initiation of treatment in a black South African HIV-positive population between the ages of 18 and 55 years (65% female). These results follow the trend of our results as within the first 36 months of treatment we observed decreases in TSF, however George et al. (2009) did not have a 36 months data sampling point.

Wannamethee et al. (2007) observed males aged 60 -79 years (97% white males) and Landi et al. (2010) observed Italian males and females both reported that decreased MUAC was also associated with higher mortality in older men and women. The results obtained by Landi et al. (2010) was obtained over a period of a year and are consistent with our results as we saw a decrease in MUAC within the first 36 months of treatment. Wannamethee et al. (2007) obtained results for a period of six years and this result is also consistent with our results as our >36 month male treatment group displayed a decreasing trend in MUAC.

In a cohort, Mallon et al. (2003) followed HIV positive men from the initiation of treatment for 144 weeks and found a noteworthy decrease in limb fat and limb mass from the baseline value. However, the highest increases in limb fat after the initiation of treatment were correlated with higher base line central abdominal and truncal fat. This study also observed that males with higher central abdominal obesity also displayed higher cholesterol, triglycerides, insulin, lower HDL and higher BMIs after 24 weeks of treatment (Mallon et al., 2003).

5.2.1.3 WC, WHR and W:Ht
The majority of the females in our study were classified as being overweight and obese. This poses a problem as obesity has been suggested by Krupa (2012) to be associated with detrimental medical conditions namely, hypertension, diabetes mellius and dyslipidemia. Increased BMI, WC and WHR are all good predictors for the onset of certain non-communicable diseases (Ng et al., 2010). For example, such alterations are linked to increased risk for developing type 2 diabetes mellitus and cardiovascular diseases (Ng et al., 2010).

Furthermore, studies on HIV-positive and negative men found a more rapid increase in WC in HIV-positive males after controlling for ARVs, suggesting that there is a contrasting rate of age-related body changes (Brown et al., 2009). Azzoni et al. (2011) reported a negative correlation between WHR and CD4, speculating that low WHRs will result in improved immune recovery. This was observed in our results as males having lower WHR than the females displayed a gain in CD4 count within our 0-36 month treatment group.
Our data from W:Ht ratio compliments the data that we obtained with WC, WHR and BMI. We observe the same trends within each gender. However, males seem to have a lower cardiovascular risk profile than females, we observe lower obesity among males. Browning et al. (2010) reported W:Ht ratio is a suitable assessment tool that can be used in many populations for CVD screening, diabetes related risk factors and it correlates well with BMI and WC. Ashwell et al. (2011) reported similar findings for WC and BMI when reviewing this tool for other studies and ethnic groups.

5.2.2 Body composition findings

5.2.2.1 BCM, FFM, FM and ECM

The males from this population generally had higher BCM compared to females. It was also noted that they do not retain it with treatment duration unlike the females. The decrease in BCM within the first three years of treatment is more pronounced within the female population, after which it increases. This is not observed in the males where BCM remain at a steady decline.

FM, FM%, FFM, ECM and BCM decreased initially in females then increased except FFM% which increased initially and then decreased, even though FFN decreased the proportion of FM in the whole body was higher. We speculate that this is due to the FM decreasing more than FFM during the 0-36 month time point or this is attributed to fluid shifts that with disease, obesity and weight reduced individuals due to abnormal fluid distribution (Singer et al., 2010; Kunkel et al., 2011; Horigan et al., 2012). The decrease of lean body mass (or FFM) and muscle mass are the most important elements of protein energy wasting (Noori et al., 2011).

Thibault & Pichard (2012) reported that an increase prevalence of obesity together with chronic illness associated with FFM loss will result in an increase in the prevalence of sarcopenic obesity. This contradicts our results as we observed a greater decrease in FM than FFM in females shown by the increase in FFN% within the 0-36 month treatment group. The reason for the loss of fat could be due to peripheral wasting that has been extensively looked at with HIV (Brown et al., 2009; George et al., 2009), however this can also be a behavioural issue as poor appetite with the initiation of treatment is also evident from the literature (Behe et al., 2013; Koethe et al., 2013).

Studies have shown that a build-up of fat stimulates low level inflammation (Greogo & Hotamisligil, 2011; Lumeng & Saltiel, 2011). This increased inflammation has been proposed as a potential biological pathway that can explain the lack of immune reconstitution in patients receiving HAART (Muller et al., 2010). Persistent low grade inflammation is a determining factor in the development of endothelial dysfunction and vascular disease in type 2 diabetes (Reyskens & Essop, 2014).
Within our sample population we see a decrease trend in BCM, FM, FFM and ECM with males this shows an increased risk of wasting that we do not see with the females as treatment duration increases. Mallon et al. (2003) observed a decrease trend in FFM from initiation of treatment to 12 weeks and 48 weeks, lipodystrophy with the central abdominal fat became more pronounced. With clinical lipoatrophy HIV-infected individuals have less VAT than uninfected controls (Bachetti et al., 2005; Bachetti et al., 2006).

The depletion of metabolically active tissue (BCM and FFM) is an important feature to note in HIV infection, this compounds the protein energy malnutrition and aging that is observed with HIV infection (Lopes & de Sousa 2013). This is worrying especially for our male population as changes in metabolically active tissue displays a decreasing trend with males after treatment initiation, however with females BCM increases after treatment for more than 36 months to higher than the control group values. Thus, the male population seem to be at a higher risk for mortality than females.

It is hypothesized that decreases in BCM in HIV-positive individuals are due to cells being used as a form of energy and sustenance that is lacking (Wasserman et al., 2012). If this is indeed correct, then differences in BCM found between genders in our study can be due to females having alternative fuel sources available. The increase in FM in females can therefore be seen as protective (Hanrahan et al., 2010), the excess FM seems to serve as a fuel source slowing disease progression.

5.2.2.2 Muscle mass, body protein content & mineral content
Ageing and disease has long been associated with increased risk of mortality because of the loss of weight and muscle mass (Landi et al., 2010; Deeks, 2011). There similarities between ageing and the HIV infection are both characterized by increased protein catabolism and decreased muscle mass. These parameters have been associated with increased mortality risk in the elderly as well as HIV-infected (Scherzer et al., 2011).

Decreased muscle mass was found to be associated with an increased risk for mortality when excluding inflammation and other factors proven to increase mortality risk (Scherzer et al., 2010). From our results we observed similar trends for muscle mass, protein content and mineral mass in each gender. Males showed a decrease in muscle, protein and mineral mass with treatment duration. Females displayed a decrease in muscle, protein and mineral mass with treatment initiation, however unlike males after 36 months of treatment an increase in these parameters was observed. As expected we observed higher muscle mass within the male population compared to the female population.
Furthermore, males tend to have lower mineral mass compared to females. However the amount of protein between genders was similar. On average, males have 61% more muscle mass than females as a result of higher levels of testosterone (Lassek & Gaulin, 2009). A negative aspect, according to Lassek & Gaulin (2009), is having a higher muscle mass with HIV there are increased dietary requirements in a decreased immune functioning system leading to a higher required energy intake which is not always achieved.

HIV-infection is not the cause of loss of bone mineral density, but this may occur as a result of ARV treatment (Tebas et al., 2011). This statement agrees with the data observed from our male participants as a decrease was observed with ARV treatment duration. However, we found an initial decrease in mineral mass and a recovery later-on in females despite ARV treatment. Suggesting that with long-term ARV exposure medication may have less of an effect on bone mineral mass. Contrastingly Bolland et al. (2007) reported ARV treatment is a risk factor for developing low bone mineral density and reported an increase in bone mineral density among HIV-infected males when compared to negative controls.

Males seem to be at a higher risk for complications as a decrease of these parameters can increase morbidity and mortality (Brown et al., 2009; Duvivier et al., 2009; Yarasheski et al., 2011; Shulman & Peterson, 2012). The declines in these parameters are associated with ageing (Wasserman et al., 2013) and observing decreases in such a young population is worrying and could have a negative impact on life expectancy, however this requires further investigation.

5.2.2.3 RMR, TBK, TBCa and Glycogen
The RMR, one of the main indicators of metabolism in humans, is an important parameter to monitor in body composition as it affects the body’s internal and external environment (Metsios et al., 2006). The male population had higher RMR compared to the female population. It is also known that males have more muscle mass, and at rest, and therefore burning more calories because it is more metabolically active than other tissues (Stewart & Sutton, 2012). This is not ideal as males display more wasting than females. Higher caloric requirement would be detrimental and could be the cause for the higher risk of morbidity and mortality among our male population.

TBK is a method of assessing the BCM and FFM (Siervo & Jebb, 2010), therefore from our results we see that TBK, BCM and FFM followed the same trend with treatment duration and between genders this reinforces our observations made for BCM. The amount of potassium in FFM is different between males and females, it is also lower in obese individuals and is age dependant (Deurenberg et al., 2009). This could explain the lower TBK observed in females as they had a higher prevalence of obesity. We speculate therefore that TBK is more accurate in the assessment of BCM than FFM. A in
differeence of three years in mean age was observed this could also, this could add to the the
difference observed between males and females.

Calcium is the primary constituent of bone mineral, the amount of calcium consumed is observed to
correlate with bone mass (Sutton, 2012). From our data we observed similar changes in mineral
mass and TBCa of both males and females with treatment duration. The results for TBCa reinforce
what was observed with bone mineral changes.

The lower amounts of calcium observed in females and the delayed recovery from a decrease in CD4
count with the initiation of treatment could indicate hypocalemia (Miguez et al., 2012). However this
was not a focus for our study but would be a good focal point in future studies.

The greatest percentage of glycogen in our bodies is found in muscle mass. Males had higher
glycogen compared to females, this is explained by the difference in muscle mass between these
two genders.

Increased glycogen translates to an increase in energy needs, as muscle is a major determining
factor in resting energy requirements (Lassek & Gaulin, 2009). In a well nourished individual 475g of
glycogen should be present (McAdle et al., 2010), males in our sample population had more
glycogen present as a decrease was observed with treatment duration. However females 0-36
month treatment group displayed lower glycogen than the 475g average. The control and >36
month treatment groups were in the vicinity of this average.

Glycogen the “stored muscle fuel” could be a good indicator of energy depletion in the HIV-positive
population, however this requires future studies to explain how effective it would be as a predictor
of energy muscle energy wasting. To our knowledge this has never been studied in a HIV-positive
population while looking at changes with in ARV treatment duration.

5.2.3 CD4
A higher CD4 count is associated with lower mortality (Cockerham et al., 2010). After the intiation of
treatment we would expect an increase in CD4 count to be observed, this was true for the male
participant. However feamles displayed a decrease in CD4 count at the 0-36 month treatment group
and an increase thereafter. Mosha et al. (2013) reported similar findings after a year of treatment
HIV-positive females display lower increases in CD4 count than males.

Nutritional stress could explain the lack of CD4 recovery in females (Lee & Nieman, 2010), however
males due to there higher muscle mass should required more caloric intake than females (Lassek &
Gaulin, 2009). The increased prevalence of obesity and higher WHR among the female participant can also explain the initial decrease in CD4 count (Hamdy et al., 2006; Azzoni et al., 2011).

A decline in health is more common with patients who were severely immunodeficient upon initiation of ARV therapy (Burgoyune et al., 2008). This was not observed in our sample population as the control groups CD4 counts where lower in males than females.

5.3 Implications of findings

5.3.1 Cardiovascular link to HAART

With treatment duration for NRTIs females used TDF less than males as treatment duration increased. Females used AZT more than males with treatment duration, however very few patients (both genders) in the 0-36 month group used AZT. A possible reason for the increased use of AZT in females is that pregnant females are put on AZT during pregnancy and in some cases if the patient is doing well on the treatment they are not taken off AZT after pregnancy and until the treatment fails (The South African Antiretroviral Treatment guidelines, 2010). This could explain the fact that females where more prone to being overweight as AZT has been linked to fat accumulation and lypodystraphy (Nguyen et al., 2008).

D4T was minimally used with all treatment groups for both genders. This is in accordance with the objectives for treatment guidelines set forward by the department of health, which aims to minimize unnecessary drug toxicities (The South African Antiretroviral Treatment guidelines, 2010).

Among the NNRTIs EFV was used more for male than females treatment, however the use of EFV decreased for both genders with treatment duration. NVP was mainly used by females and increased with treatment duration for both males and females. The use of EFV is preferred with TB co-infection this could be a possible reason for the increased use of EFV over NVP. However increased NVP use among females can be attributed to the switch from EFV to NVP during pregnancy and further use after pregnancy (The South African Antiretroviral Treatment Guidelines, 2010). In disagreement with our results Nguyen et al. (2008) reported a greater association between EFV use and fat accumulation vs. NVP use. However this study was done with many different ethnic groups and Black ethnicity was not well represented.

With regards to the PI LOP/r we observed an increase in use as treatment duration increased with both males and females. This is because PIs are part of the 2nd regimen and the majority of patients will only go on PIs once 1st regimen has failed. Females had a greater increase in the use of LOP/r when compared to males. This could explain the increases in obesity we observed with treatment.
duration among female participants, as LOP/r use has been associated with fat accumulation and weight gain (Nguyen et al., 2008).

PIs have been implicated in metabolic changes which are not only systemic but also organ related (Reyskens & Essop, 2014). Reyskens & Essop reviewed these metabolic changes and reported that; i) the systemic metabolic changes were similar to that of the metabolic syndrome which prompt risk factors that could lead to the onset of CVD and type 2 diabetes mellitus. ii) The effects of PIs on the heart itself also prompted the onset of cardiovascular complications by the production of reactive oxygen species which are the root of intercellular and mitochondrial damaging effects which lead to impaired mitochondrial function, energy production and later cell death.

Bhowmik et al. (2012) observed 48 patients receiving PIs at baseline, six months and twelve months, they reported a marked decrease in TSF and an increase in BMI at both the six and twelve month data collection points. They also reported an increase in LDL and decrease in HDL only at the six month time point.

Endothelial injury due to PI treatment has been linked to dyslipidemia, oxidative stress as well as immune senescence (Lefevre et al., 2010; Reyskens & Essop, 2014). However endothelial dysfunction has also been found to be present in HIV positive individuals not on treatment (Torriani et al., 2008).

Lin et al. (2011) reported that the administration of TDF cases significant decreases in bone mineral density to decrease when given as pre exposure prophylaxes. Huang et al. (2013) published similar results showing that TDF caused the greatest loss of total bone mineral density.

An increase in FM has been correlated with a decrease in bone mineral density with patients on PIs, when compared to regimens without PIs increases in FM, FFM, triglycerides, WC and leptin was observed (Bonnet et al., 2013).

Obel et al. (2007) reported an increase in hospitalization for ischemic heart disease between HIV positive individuals with the first 2 years of treatment, however when compared to controls(HIV negative) individuals the relative risk did not increase for 8 years. TDF and LOP/r independent of one another were associated with chronic renal impairment in HIV infected individuals (Ryom et al., 2013).

Since ARV has become available to the public sector fewer incidence of opportunistic infections have been observed due to immune reconstitution, however an observation of unique reactions to opportunistic infections (Inflammatory response) has been observed with some patients after
initiation ARVs (Murdoch et al., 2007). The presentations of these clinical symptoms have been termed the immune reconstitution inflammatory syndrome (IRIS) (Pean et al., 2011). This observation could explain the decline in body compositional parameters observed in our 0-36 month treatment group, however this requires further investigation.

5.4 Limitations and recommendations
The study had some limitations that need to be disclosed. We anticipated a sample size of n=560 during the beginning stages of this cross-sectional study. We could not reach this sample size because of several reasons; 1) the male participants do not attend clinics. This could also be explained from literature, as males are less likely to attend clinics and refuse to participate (Connolly et al., 2008). 2) During the winter months it usually rains in the Western Cape and patients then rely on walking to the clinics. 3) Day workers need to get back to their day jobs or else they are relieved from their work and thus we did not see many potential participants.

Thus, males and females were not equally represented as statistically calculated. Some of the reference cutoffs used in this study were not validated for this population. Because of the study design we should be very careful not to infer causality to any of the findings.

We initially planned to include nutritional assessments but time constraints made it impossible for us to gather this very important information.

There were no HIV negative control groups to track the natural progression of our parameters. BIA measurements can be affected by disease, during periods of infections fluid shifts occur in the body increasing extracellular fluid compartments (e.g. renal failure, acidities or nephrotoxicity). It would be interesting to look at total body water in a future study; this however requires a very strict pre-test protocol which was not always feasible in our setting.

Further longitudinal studies to assess the changes over time between HIV infected as well as the uninfected are needed. We are currently in the process of formulating new hypothesis in which we will look in more depth possibly molecular mechanisms in an on-going project, to explain some of our findings. Studies should also be carried out in private clinics to assess the anthropometric characteristics and differences between the ARVs regimens available in the public and private sectors.

A definite advantage of this study was the multi-disciplinary nature we concluded this phase of the data collection in. Several other disciplines (biochemistry, psychology, physiotherapy and sport science, Centre for High Performance Sciences) are all collaborating for the next phase of data collection.
We do report that both HIV positive males and females with different treatment durations had an ARV naïve group which served as a before treatment baseline. To our knowledge the reporting on the anthropometric and body compositional characteristics with treatment duration of this population has not yet been done.

5.5 Strategies for improvement of quality of life in relation to anthropometric findings

It was found that the female population had a much higher risk for the development of cardio-metabolic disease. For the male population, there is the need to look at strategies to improve and maintain muscle mass to prevent wasting. Nutritional planning combined with a regular exercise programme might help with this issue. PIs can be phased out and a new drug class (e.g. integrase inhibitors or chemokine receptor inhibitors) can be considered in cases where dyslipidemia arises.

The prescription of anabolic steroids, exercise and growth hormone can be considered as they have been proven to restore weight and FFM (Lo et al., 2010; Gullet et al., 2010). The HIV fusion inhibitor, Enfuvirtide, could be beneficial as it has not caused unwanted changes to fat distribution and metabolic factors (Cooper et al., 2010).

5.6 Conclusion

The results of this study illustrate the changes in body composition and anthropometric profiles between both genders as they react differently to treatment duration of ARVs.

The increases in fat and other parameters leave the females at higher risk for developing cardiovascular diseases. We observed a decrease in TS, MAUC, WC, HC, W:Ht, WHR, weight, BMI, FFM, FM, BCM, protein and muscle with in the first three years of treatment. This is attributed to a stabilization period that occurs due to immune reconstitution and stabilization of metabolic changes undergone due to the infection and the introduction of ARVs. However in the female population these parameters increased with treatment duration.

W:Ht ratio might be a valid assessment tool for the assessment of metabolic risk factors as the trends that emerged where congruent with that of BMI, WC and WHR. Even though both genders exhibited wasting with the initiation of treatment we observed a marked improvement with females as all the parameters besides WHR and FFM% increased with treatment duration. This was not evident in the male population as with all parameters besides WHR, W:Ht and FFM% decreased with treatment duration.
Future studies should focus on determining the cause of the body compositional changes undergone with treatment duration and distinguish between the influence of HIV itself and the treatment thereof.
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Western Cape HIV/AIDS Infection and Fertility Population Projections, 2005


APPENDIX A: CONSENT FORMS
DEELNEMERINLIGTINGSBLAD EN -TOESTEMMINGSVORM

TITEL VAN DIE NAVORSINGSPROJEK:
’n Deursnit studie van die gemiddelde trisepsvelvou (TVV), vetvrymassa (VVM) en middel bo-arm omtrek (MBAO) in ‘n HIV positiewe populasie van die Boland distrik.

VERWYSINGSNOMMER: S12/03/073

HOOFNAVORSER: Dr Theo Nell

ADRES:
Departement Fysiologiese Wetenskappe
Mike de Vries Gebou
Kamer 2007
Stellenbosch Universiteit

KONTAKNOMMER: 021 8083147

U word genooi om deel te neem aan ’n navorsingsprojek. Lees asseblief hierdie inligtingsblad op u tyd deur aangesien die detail van die navorsingsprojek daarin verduidelik word. Indien daar enige deel van die navorsingsprojek is wat u nie ten volle verstaan nie, is u welkom om die navorsings personeel of dokter daaroor uit te vra. Dit is baie belangrik dat u ten volle moet verstaan wat die navorsingsprojek behels en hoe u daarby betrokke kan wees. U deelname is ook volkome vrywillig en dit staan u vry om deelname te weier. U sal op geen wyse hoegenaamd negatief beïnvloed word indien u sou weier om deel te neem nie. U mag ook te eniger tyd aan die navorsingsprojek onttrek, selfs al het u ingestem om deel te neem.

Hierdie navorsingsprojek is deur die Etiek Komitee oor Gesondheidsnavorsing van die Universiteit Stellenbosch goedgekeur en sal uitgevoer word volgens die etiese riglyne en beginsels van die Internasionale Verklaring van Helsinki en die Etiese Riglyne vir Navorsing van die Mediese Navorsingsraad (MNR).

Wat behels hierdie navorsingsprojek?

- Hierdie studie word slegs by die TC Newman hospitaal gedoen. Ons benodig ongeveer 30 pasiënte. Ons poog daarin om inligting in te samel oor liggaamsamestelling van pasiënte wat ’n HIV kliniek van die TC Newman Hospitaal besoek. Deur hierdie inligting kan ons dieetkundiges en mediese personeel bystaan om u siekte vordering te monitor en sodoende terapie aan te pas (dieet) om u kwaliteit lewe te verbeter.

- U sal deur ’n professionele mediese wetenskaplike met meer as 10 jaar ondervinding, gemeet word. U liggaaams massa, lengte en sekere velvoue en omtrekke sal gemeet word. ’n Masjien wat die liggaaamsvet bepaal sal aan u hande en voete gekoppel word. Dit voel net soos ’n pleister wat aan die vel gesit word en kan u nie skade of ongemak veroorsaak nie.
Ons wil verder inligting versamel van u fisiese aktiwiteit en eetgewoontes. Dit is nodig vir ons studie om pasiënte ewekansig te kies van alle pasiënte wat hierdie kliniek besoek. Dit maak dit maklik om die resultate na die totale populasie te veralgemeen en maak dit moontlik vir elkeen om ’n gelyke kans te kry om gekies te word vir die studie.

Waarom is u genooi om deel te neem?

- U siekte maak dat u kwalifiseer vir die insluiting van die studie. Deur u liggaamsamestelling te bepaal kan ons mediese personeel bystaan in die monitering van u siekte vordering. Dit is ’n metode om besluite te neem oor u liggaamsamestellingveranderinge oor tyd en om dieetkundiges in te lig oor dieetveranderinge en aanbevelings te maak indien nodig.

Wat sal u verantwoordelikhede wees?

- Ons wil u graag meet deur van gespesialiseerde toerusting gebruik te maak. Hierdie toerusting sal u nie skade of ongemak besorg nie. Ons maak merke op die vel met ’n oogpotlood om velvoue te meet aan die regterkant van die liggaam (arm, heup, skouer). U moet dan ook plat lê waar ons die vet persentasie met ’n spesiale masjien toets. Dit neem omtrent 30 sekondes. Ons wil verder weet watter voedsel asook hoeveel daarvan u inneem op gereelde tye. Dit neem ongeveer 1 tot 1 ½ uur.

Sal u voordeel trek deur deel te neem aan hierdie navorsingsprojek?

- U sal uit hierdie studie voordeel trek. Indien ons bevind u liggaamsvet en u spier massa is te laag kan ons die dieetkundige en dokter nader om te besluit indien verandering in behandeling (dieet en oefening) ’n moontlikheid is.

Is daar enige risiko’s verbone aan u deelname aan hierdie navorsingsprojek?

- Daar is geen risiko verbone nie.

Watter alternatiewe is daar indien u nie instem om deel te neem nie?

- U sal nie standaard behandeling geweier word indien u verkies om nie deel te neem aan die navorsingstudie nie. Die dieetkundige is opgelei om hierdie metings te kan doen en word gewoontlik in roetiene behandeling toegepas.

Wie sal toegang hê tot u mediese rekords?

- Slegs mediese personeel (dokter en dieetkundige en die hooffavorser) sal toegang hê tot u mediese geskiedenis. Alle inligting sal met die uiterste vertroulikheid behandel word. Onder geen omstandighede sal die naam of enige ander identifikasie gebruik word nie.

Wat sal gebeur in die onwaarskynlike geval van ’n besering wat mag voorkom as gevolg van u deelname aan hierdie navorsingsprojek?

- Nie hier van toepassing nie.

Sal u betaal word vir deelname aan die navorsingsprojek en is daar enige koste verbonde aan deelname?
U sal nie betaal word vir deelname aan die navorsingsprojek nie, maar u vervoer en etes ten opsigte van elke besoek vir die navorsingsprojek sal betaal word. Deelname aan die navorsingsprojek sal u niks kos nie.

Is daar enigiets anders wat u moet weet of doen?

- U kan dr Theo Nell. kontak by tel.021 8083147 of 0716889962 indien u enige verdere vrae het of enige probleme ondervind.
- U kan die Etiëk Komitee oor Gesondheidsnavorsing kontak by 021-938 9207 indien u enige bekommernis of klagte het wat nie bevredigend deur u studiedokter hanteer is nie.
- U sal 'n afskrif van hierdie inligtings- en toestemmingsvorm ontvang vir u eie rekords.

Verklaring deur deelnemer

Met die ondertekening van hierdie dokument ondernem ek, .........................................................., om deel te neem aan ’n navorsingsprojek getiteld (Titel van navorsingsprojek).

Ek verklaar dat:

- Ek hierdie inligtings- en toestemmingsvorm gelees het of aan my laat voorlees het en dat dit in ’n taal geskryf is waarin ek vaardig en gemaklik mee is.
- Ek geleentheid gehad het om vrae te stel en dat al my vrae bevredigend beantwoord is.
- Ek verstaan dat deelname aan hierdie navorsingsprojek vrywillig is en dat daar geen druk op my geplaas is om deel te neem nie.
- Ek te eniger tyd aan die navorsingsprojek mag onttrek en dat ek nie op enige wyse daardeur benadeel sal word nie.
- Ek gevra mag word om van die navorsingsprojek te onttrek voordat dit afgehandel is indien die studiedokter of navorser van oordeel is dat dit in my beste belang is, of indien ek nie die ooreengekome navorsingsplan volg nie.

Geteken te (plek) ........................................ op (datum) ........................................ 2012.

..........................................................   ..........................................................
Verklaring deur navorser

Ek (naam) ........................................ ver klaar dat:

• Ek die inligting in hierdie dokument verduidelik het aan .................................................................

• Ek hom/haar aangemoedig het om vrae te vra en voldoende tyd gebruik het om dit te beantwoord.

• Ek tevrede is dat hy/sy al die aspekte van die navorsingsprojek soos hierbo bespreek, voldoende verstaan.

• Ek ’n tolk gebruik het/nie ’n tolk gebruik het nie. (Indien ’n tolk gebruik is, moet die tolk die onderstaande verklaring teken.)

Geteken te (plek) ........................................ to (datum) ........................................ 2012.

.................................................................................................................................
Handtekening van navorder Handtekening van getuie

Verklaring deur tolk

Ek (naam) ........................................ ver klaar dat:

• Ek die navorser (naam) ........................................ bygestaan het om die inligting in hierdie dokument in Afrikaans/Xhosa aan (naam van deelnemer) ............................................. te verduidelik.

• Ons hom/haar aangemoedig het om vrae te vra en voldoende tyd gebruik het om dit te beantwoord.

• Ek ’n feitelik korrekte weergawe oorgedra het van wat aan my vertel is.

• Ek tevrede is dat die deelnemer die inhoud van hierdie dokument ten volle verstaan en dat al sy/haar vrae bevredigend beantwoord is.

Geteken te (plek) ........................................ to (datum) ........................................ 2012.

.................................................................................................................................
Handtekening van tolk Handtekening van getuie
PARTICIPANT INFORMATION LEAFLET AND CONSENT FORM

TITLE OF THE RESEARCH PROJECT:
A cross-sectional survey of the mean triceps skinfold (TSF), Fat free mass (FFM) and Mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) in a HIV positive population in the Boland region

REFERENCE NUMBER: S12/03/073

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Dr Theo Nell

ADDRESS:
Department of Physiological Sciences
Mike de Vries Building
Room 2007
Stellenbosch University

CONTACT NUMBER: 021 8083147

You are being invited to take part in a research project. Please take some time to read the information presented here, which will explain the details of this project. Please ask the study staff or doctor any questions about any part of this project that you do not fully understand. It is very important that you are fully satisfied that you clearly understand what this research entails and how you could be involved. Also, your participation is entirely voluntary and you are free to decline to participate. If you say no, this will not affect you negatively in any way whatsoever. You are also free to withdraw from the study at any point, even if you do agree to take part.

This study has been approved by the Health Research Ethics Committee at Stellenbosch University and will be conducted according to the ethical guidelines and principles of the international Declaration of Helsinki, South African Guidelines for Good Clinical Practice and the Medical Research Council (MRC) Ethical Guidelines for Research.

What is this research study all about?

- This study will only be done at the TC Newman Hospital. We will need about 30 subjects. We are trying to gather information on body composition profiles of patients attending a sub-clinic in the TC Newman Hospital. By getting this information we would be able to assist dieticians and medical staff to monitor your disease progress and adjust treatment (dietary) to improve your quality of life.

You will be measured by a professional medical scientist who has more than 10 years’ experience in this type of measurements. Your body weight, height and some skin folds with circumferences will be collected. A machine that is used to measure fat in the body will be used on your hands and feet and feels
like a band aid being attached to the skin. It is not going to cause you any harm or discomfort.

We will also gather information on your physical activity and eating patterns.

- In order for us to generalise the results to this population we will randomly select all patients who are currently coming to this clinic to have a representative sample. Everyone has an equal chance of being selected for this study.

**Why have you been invited to participate?**

- Your disease makes you eligible for inclusion to assess how your body composition might assist medical staff in monitoring your disease progression. This is a method to make decisions regarding your body composition changes over time and assist dieticians to make dietary recommendations if needed.

**What will your responsibilities be?**

- We would like to measure you using specialised tools that will not harm or cause you any discomfort. We will make marks on your skin using a pen so we can measure the skin thickness around the right arm and also on the hip and shoulder. You also have to lie down so we can use a machine for not more than 30 seconds to assess your fat mass and measure the amount of body cells. This machine uses a very small non-detectable current to your body to help us understand how your body composition looks like. Further, we would like to look at usual food intake over a period of time. This will take approximately 1-1 ½ hours.

**Will you benefit from taking part in this research?**

- You will benefit from this initial survey. If we identify a condition where your fat mass is low and also your muscle mass we will advise the dietician and doctor to make the necessary recommendation to intervene. This might be a dietary intervention or exercise if necessary.

**Are there in risks involved in your taking part in this research?**

- There are no risks.

**If you do not agree to take part, what alternatives do you have?**

- You will not be denied any standard of treatment if you do not wish to take part in this research study. The dietician is trained to do these assessments and is usually done as part of the treatment.

**Who will have access to your medical records?**

- Only medical staff and the principal researcher will have access to your data and records. All information will be treated with respect and utmost confidentiality. Under no circumstances will your name or any form of identification be used.
What will happen in the unlikely event of some form injury occurring as a direct result of your taking part in this research study?

- Not applicable here.

Will you be paid to take part in this study and are there any costs involved?

- No, you will not be paid to take part in the study but your transport and meal costs will be covered for each study visit. There will be no costs involved for you, if you do take part.

Is there anything else that you should know or do?

- You can contact Dr Theo Nell at tel 0218083147 or 0716889962 if you have any further queries or encounter any problems.
- You can contact the Health Research Ethics Committee at 021-938 9207 if you have any concerns or complaints that have not been adequately addressed by your study doctor.
- You will receive a copy of this information and consent form for your own records.

Declaration by participant

By signing below, I …………………………………………… agree to take part in a research study entitled (A cross-sectional survey of the mean triceps skinfold (TSF), Fat free mass (FFM) and Mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) in a HIV positive population in the Boland region).

I declare that:

- I have read or had read to me this information and consent form and it is written in a language with which I am fluent and comfortable.
- I have had a chance to ask questions and all my questions have been adequately answered.
- I understand that taking part in this study is voluntary and I have not been pressurised to take part.
- I may choose to leave the study at any time and will not be penalised or prejudiced in any way.
- I may be asked to leave the study before it has finished, if the study doctor or researcher feels it is in my best interests, or if I do not follow the study plan, as agreed to.

Signed at (place) ........................................ on (date) ......................... 2013.
Declaration by investigator

I (name) ……………………………………………….. declare that:

• I explained the information in this document to

• I encouraged him/her to ask questions and took adequate time to answer them.

• I am satisfied that he/she adequately understands all aspects of the research, as discussed above

• I did/did not use a interpreter. (If a interpreter is used then the interpreter must sign the declaration below.

Signed at (place) ........................................ on (date) ......................... 2013.

Declaration by interpreter

I (name) ……………………………………………….. declare that:

• I assisted the investigator (name) …………………………………… to explain the information in this document to (name of participant)

• We encouraged him/her to ask questions and took adequate time to answer them.

• I conveyed a factually correct version of what was related to me.

• I am satisfied that the participant fully understands the content of this informed consent document and has had all his/her question satisfactorily answered.

Signed at (place) ........................................ on (date) .................................
APPENDIX B Bioelecical Impedance Analysis (BIA) Protocol

Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis (BIA) Protocol

- Start by showing the participant the BIA testing device and explain clearly where you will place the electrodes and what you will be doing.
- The exam table should be comfortable and free of drafts and electrical source heaters.
- Make sure analyzer battery is relatively new and well charged.
- Regularly check analyzer calibration and patient cables using a standard protocol. (See the calibration procedure in your machine’s manual).
- The participant should not have exercised or taken a sauna within 8 hours of the procedure.
- The participant should refrain from alcohol intake for 12 hours prior to the procedure.
- The participant should not be diaphoretic (covered with sweat) or soaked in urine as the analyzer measures this fluid as fat-free mass.
- Make sure that participant lies quietly and without motion during the entire test.
- Ask participant to remove their right shoe and sock.
- If, for some reason, the procedure must be done on the left side, then make a note of it and subsequently (next visits) always use the left side.
- Have participant lie on his/her back, on the exam table, with arms by his/her sides and arms and thighs not touching.
- Remove any jewelry on the electrode sites.
- Gently clean electrode sites with an alcohol wipe, particularly if the skin is moist or covered with lotion.
- Attach the electrodes as follows: Wrist: Place on an imaginary line from the protruding bone of the wrist straight across to other side of wrist.
- Make sure the top of the electrode is toward the shoulder with the tab facing away from the body.
- Hand: Place on middle finger just above hand knuckle. Tab facing away from the body.
- Ankle: Place on an imaginary line between the protruding ankle bones straight across to other side of ankle.
- Make sure that the top of the electrode is toward the thigh with tab facing away from the body.
- Foot: Place just behind the middle toes above the knuckles (about 1 cm) of the right foot with tab facing away from the body.
- Attach the leads to the electrodes.
- Turn the analyzer on and make sure the subject refrains from movement.
- Log variables and start test.
APPENDIX C: ETHICS APPROVAL

Approval Notice
New Application

21 Jun 2012
Nell, Theodora TA

Ethics Reference #: 512/03/873

Title: A cross-sectional survey of the mean triceps skinfold (TST), Fat free mass (FFM) and Mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) in HIV positive population in the Boland region

Dear Doctor Nell Nell,

The New Application received on 19 May 2012, was reviewed by staff members of the REC office on 04 Jun 2012 and was approved. Please note the following information about your approved research protocol:

Protocol Approval Period: 04 Jun 2012 - 04 Jun 2013

Please remember to use your protocol number (512/03/873) on any document or correspondence with the REC concerning your research protocol.

Please note that the REC has the prerogative and authority to ask further questions, seek additional information, require further modifications, or monitor the conduct of your research and the consent process.

After Ethical Review:

Please note that a template of the progress report is obtainable on www.sun.ac.za and should be submitted to the Committee before the year has expired.

The Committee will then consider the continuation of the project for a further year (if necessary). Annually a number of projects may be selected randomly for an external audit.

Translation of the consent document in the language applicable to the study participants should be submitted.

Federal Wide Assurance Number: 00001372
Institutional Review Board (IRB) Number: IRB00005239

The Health Research Ethics Committee complies with the S.A. National Health Act No. 61 2003 as it pertains to health research and the United States Code of Federal Regulations Title 45 Part 46. This committee abide by the ethical norms and principles for research, established by the Declaration of Helsinki, the South African Medical Research Council Guidelines as well as the Guidelines for Ethical Research Principles Structure and Process 2006 (Department of Health).

Provincial and City of Cape Town Approval

Please note that for research at a primary or secondary healthcare facility permission must still be obtained from the relevant authorities (Western Cape Department of Health and/or City Health) to conduct the research as stated in the protocol. Contact persons are Ms Claudineabolahem at Western Cape Department of Health (claudineabolahem@grape.gov.za Tel: +27 21 483 9907) and Dr Hlumisa Visser at City Health (Hlumisa.Visser@capetown.gov.za Tel: +27 21 400 3981). Research that will be conducted at any tertiary academic institution requires approval from the relevant hospital manager. Ethics approval is required BEFORE approval can be obtained from these health authorities.

We wish you the best as you conduct your research.

For standard REC forms and documents please visit www.sun.ac.za/ire.

If you have any questions or need further help, please contact the REC office at 021386207.

Included Documents:
Checklist
Consent Form
Protocol
Investigator declaration
Application form

Sincerely,
Martina Davids
REC Coordinator
Health Research Ethics Committee
Ethics Letter

23 Oct 2013

Ethics reference #: 512/03/075

Title: A cross-sectional survey of the mean triceps skinfold (TSF), Fat free mass (FFM) and Mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) in HIV positive population in the Boland region

Dear Doctor Theodore Neil,

At a meeting of the Health Research Ethics Committee that was held on 16 October 2013, the progress report for the abovementioned project has been approved and the study has been granted an extension for a period of one year from this date.

Please remember to submit progress reports in good time for annual renewal in the standard HREC format.

Approval Date: 16 October 2013 Expiry Date: 16 October 2014

If you have any queries or need further help, please contact the REC Office 021 938 2077.

Sincerely,

REC Coordinator
Mertrude Davids
Health Research Ethics Committee 2
Private Bag X1,
Malmesbury,
7600

For attention: Dr Pierre Vol. Prof. MJ Hop, Dr E Callie, and Dr K Khaile

Re: Cross-sectional survey of the mean triceps skinfold (TS), fat free mass (FFM) and mid-upper
arm circumference (MUAC) in HIV positive population in the Boland region

Thank you for submitting your proposal to undertake the above-mentioned study. We are pleased
to inform you that the department has granted you approval for your research. Please contact the
following people to obtain additional information:

TC Newman Hospital
Ms S Naudé
(022) 318 8120

Kindly ensure that the following are adhered to:

1. Arrangements can be made with nursing/paramedics that can facilitate a research
   observation and data collection.
2. Participants, in discussing possible factors affecting the
   department with an electronic copy of the final report with the head of the department.
   The report can be submitted to the Provincial Research Co-ordinator.
   (healthcare@news.gov.za)
3. The above contact details should be quoted in all future correspondence.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

DIRECTOR: HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT

DATE: 23/01/2001

CC: DR E Phillips
DIRECTOR: CAPE WINELANDS
## APPENDIX D: DATA COLLECTION SHEETS

### Data sheet

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<td>Co-infections</td>
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<td>M/F</td>
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