



JOHANNESBURG OFFICE
EXAMINATIONS & CREDENTIALS

C M S A

The Colleges of Medicine of South Africa NPC

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Diploma of HIV Management Study Support Programme SS2026:

12 May 2026 to 12 July 2026

Dear Candidates for the Diploma of HIV Management SS2026

THE Dip HIV Man Study Support Programme is available online at the new Learn@CMSA hub. You can work through the material at your own pace. Weekly emails will be sent out as reminders from the 12th of May 2026, but all resources are conveniently preloaded on Learn@CMSA and ready for use.

The online course is structured into 9 weeks, with each week including 3 professional activities (PAs) to complete. Each PA will consist of the learning objectives you need to achieve for that section, some tips to prepare, the key resources and guidelines you will use to study for those objectives and supplementary learning material that can enhance your learning. It includes all the information in the DIPHIVMan Blueprint and Curriculum (available on the CMSA website). You can follow the program as outlined, or structure your learning at your own pace. The weekly emails contain the 'learning tips' for each PA (also available at Learn@CMSA) and will serve as a reminder to keep going!

Please note that this study support programme does not have live teaching sessions or WhatsApp support. We hope to create more interactive content in the future, but at present, the webinars available are pre-recorded and can be watched at your own convenience.

HOW TO ACCESS THE ONLINE COURSE MATERIAL

1. Register on Learn@CMSA ((<https://cmsalearn.co.za/login/signup.php>) – It is sometimes easier to register with a personal Gmail than an institution account – you usually receive the confirmation email quicker containing the link you need to click on to confirm your account.
2. Log in to Learn@CMSA and complete the mandatory fields in your profile.
3. Click on the Diploma in HIV Management course on the home page under "Available Courses".
4. Enter the enrolment key: **HIVSS2026** to enrol in the course.

If you have any challenges with registration, please get in touch with Catherine Fortune at Catherine.Fortune@uct.ac.za

PLEASE NOTE THAT ENROLLMENT IN THIS PROGRAMME DOES NOT CONFIRM THAT YOUR APPLICATION FOR THE DIPLOMA HAS BEEN ACCEPTED.

Best wishes

Madeleine

PLEASE NOTE: The CMSA may take several weeks to process all the applications. To ensure that EVERYONE has access to the study group right from the start, we will include all applicants in the study program. Receiving emails from us does NOT mean that your application has been approved. Apologies for that. Feel free to inform me if you no longer wish to receive emails. You are welcome to be part of the program, even if you decide not to take the exam in July 2026.

How to use the DipHIVMan SS2026 Study Programme

Both HIV and TB are sizeable public health programs in South Africa and, therefore, heavily guideline-based. Most resources you will use will be guidelines from the NDOH or the HIV Clinicians Society. These days, most public and private sector guidelines agree on all the essential aspects of HIV care. Know these well! **You need to be familiar with both the most recent and the newest guidelines.** We will specify in the question which guideline to use if they differ. Familiarise yourself with the differences between the public and private sectors, no matter where you work. Our patients move, and we need to understand both programs.

You will also need at least one good HIV textbook – mainly for the sections on opportunistic infections and aspects that are not covered by guidelines. I am sure most of you have the **Oxford Handbook of HIV Medicine (third edition)**, which should suffice, MSF HIV handbook is included in this programme. This is only useful for the non-ARV sections. Another key resource is your **EML** – both primary health care level and hospital and the latest Adult Primary Care Pack (latest versions on NDOH Knowledgehub). Please join the [NDOH KnowledgeHub](#) for all the latest and relevant guidelines and circulars.

The science of HIV is no longer that complicated, but what is overwhelming is the sheer volume of material. We have excellent guidelines, and they are highly detailed. Working through all the material takes time. Most doctors who fall short during the exam have not covered enough ground. They either started studying too late, were too selective (e.g., left out sections like PMTCT or Paediatrics), or skim-read and did not take note of the finer nuances of the guidelines.

Make sure you use the **DipHIVMan Curriculum & Blueprint**. It gives an overview of all the learning objectives and resources for each section. We have incorporated them into the study program for easy access.

The 9-week study program (road map) has been created to help you stay on track. It covers the 27 professional activities in the curriculum, which have been rearranged into nine sections. This program is just a guide. If you see a pregnant woman in your clinic, skip to the PMTCT section. If you start later, work out your own program to catch up.

Completing at least 70-80% of the allocated tasks every week is key. For those needing time management tips, see the helpful document on the online platform on the Pomodoro technique. Aim to complete at least 4-6 Pomodoros each week. Predetermine when you will sit down to study and stick to it.

ROADMAP TO DIPLOMA HIV MANAGEMENT FS2025		
Week 1	12 May to 17 May 2026	1.1 Providing HIV negative patients with HIV prevention options.
		2.2 Testing and initiating HIV positive adults onto ARVs
		3.1 Testing and treating HIV positive neonates and children
Week 2	19 May to 26 May 2026	2.2 Managing adult patients on ARVs with treatment failure
		3.2 Managing children with HIV treatment failure
Week 3	26 May to 31 May 2026	3.3 Managing complications and co-morbid disease specific to children with HIV
		4.2 Sexual health and Family Planning
		5.3 Managing HIV patient with gastro-intestinal / abdominal symptoms
Week 4	2 June to 7 June 2026	4.1 Providing care to both mother and child to reduce MTCT of HIV
		6.3 Management of metabolic complications and changes in habitus in patients on ARVs
		5.8 Identification and management of HIV related malignancy
Week 5	9 June to 14 June 2026	3.4 Diagnosing and managing TB in children with HIV
		5.1 Managing adults with TB and HIV co-infection
		5.4 Management of patient with HIV with respiratory symptoms
Week 6	16 June to 21 June 2026	5.2 Assessment and Management of patients with HIV with neurological symptoms
		5.7 Management of HIV patients with a disturbed mental state
		6.4 Managing patients on ARVs with neurological adverse events.
Week 7	23 June to 28 June 2026	5.9 Management of patients with HIV with vision loss or eye symptoms
		6.1 Managing the patient with HIV with jaundice or abnormal liver function tests.
		6.2 Managing the abnormal FBC in a patient with HIV
Week 8	30 June to 5 July 2026	5.5 Management of oral lesions in patients with HIV
		5.6 Managing skin presentations in patients with HIV
		6.6 Approach to dermatological adverse events in patients with HIV
Week 9	7 July to 12 July 2026	6.5 Managing patients with HIV with impaired renal function
		7.1 Managing adults with HIV and Chronic disease
		8.1 Supporting patients on ARVs including special and key populations
		3.5 Managing Adolescents with HIV
	14 July 26	PAPER 1
	15 July 26	PAPER 2