

Guidelines for Completing the V36.5/v76 Antiviral Medication Adherence Form

General Instructions

1. The Antiviral Medication Adherence Form should be completed for seropositive participants that complete a Drug Form I and answer that they are **currently** taking anti-HIV medications. Drugs taken as part of a clinical trial should be included as long as the participant is not blinded to the treatment.
1. The form should be administered by the interviewer immediately following completion of all Drug Form I (s).

Question 1:

Most items in this question refer to medication usage in the last 4 days. There is room for 9 possible drugs. Answer all questions for 1 drug at a time. Enter the drug name and corresponding code in the boxes allowed. ***Note: The question “According to your doctor how many times a day should you take [DRUG]” has been removed from the Medication Adherence Form and placed on Drug Form 1.*** The first four questions ask the participant how many times a day he actually took the medication over the last 4 days. For example, if the participant is taking 5 pills of Viracept, 3 times a day, code the answer as “3”. When referring to 2 days ago, 3 days ago and 4 days ago, mention the actual day of the week you are alluding to [DAY]. For example, if the interview is on Friday and you are asking about 3 days ago, prompt the participant by saying “that would be on Tuesday”.

The next item asks if this pattern of use described in the previous 4-day period is typical of the participant’s recent use of that drug in general. Again, the actual drug name should be inserted at the end of the question. The time frame of “recent” is intentionally meant to be subjective. It is up to the participant’s interpretation. Do not try to define “recent” for the participant. If needed, simply repeat the question.

The final item in this series is aimed at capturing some general information about the number of pills taken at each dose. At the end of this question, if the participant is currently only taking 1 drug, SKIP TO Q2, otherwise continue with the second drug and go through the exact same sequence of questioning. Do likewise for the completion of the second drug and the third drug. If the participant is currently taking more than 3 antiviral medications, continue on page 2, otherwise SKIP TO Q2. If the participant is currently taking more than 6 medications, continue on page 3, otherwise SKIP TO Q2.

Question 2:

This question refers to the last 6 months. Ask the participant when was the last time he skipped ANY of his medications. If he has never skipped any medications, go to Question 4.

Question 3:

This question should be skipped if the answer to Question 2 was “Never”.

This question asks a series of reasons for missing medications and how often each reason applies. Read each reason to the participant and complete his responses before proceeding to the next reason. At the end, ask the participant if there are any other reasons for missing his medications that he was not already asked. Write these responses in the specify box.

Question 4:

All participants completing the form should answer this question related to adherence to their medication schedules. The time frame for this question is the last 4 days.

Question 5:

This question has three parts related to special instructions for taking medications. If the participant was never given such instructions, SKIP TO Q6, otherwise continue with the next 2 items. In item 3, an example of conflicting instructions would be that the participant is taking 2 medications at the same time, for one he is instructed to “take on an empty stomach” and for the other he is told to “take it with food”.

Question 6:

This question refers to the way the participant remembers to take his medication. Read each item and mark the participant’s response. If he has a way of remembering that was not listed, mark “YES” for other and record it in the specify box.