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Dr Fortune Ncube  
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61 Colindale Avenue  
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By email: [ukap@phe.gov.uk](mailto:ukap@phe.gov.uk)

Dear Dr Ncube

**Draft PHE HIV-infected healthcare worker guidance**

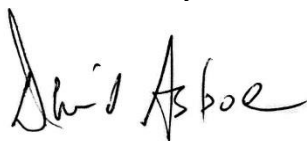
Thank you for your email and for inviting BHIVA to comment on the above consultation. Please see below for the BHIVA comments:

1. BHIVA is fully supportive of the recommended policy. BHIVA welcomes the relaxation of the ban on healthcare workers infected with HIV working on certain dental and surgery procedures. This reflects increased confidence in the effectiveness of antiretroviral treatment in reducing viral levels and resulting infectiousness.<sup>1</sup>
2. The most likely cause of a significant and substantial rise in viral load is interrupted therapy or sub-optimal adherence. In the table of responsibilities it would seem indicated and reasonable to include under HCW responsibilities a requirement of the HCW to report to their physician if there has been an interruption to therapy or a period of sub-optimal adherence.

If you have any queries about the BHIVA response, please be kind enough to contact me through the Secretariat at [bhiva@bhiva.org](mailto:bhiva@bhiva.org).

With kind regards

Yours sincerely



**Dr David Asboe**  
**Chair, British HIV Association (BHIVA)**

<sup>1</sup> British HIV Association (BHIVA) response to Department of Health announcement 'Modernisation of HIV rules to better protect public' Thursday 15th August 2013, This statement follows the Chief Medical Officer's announcement on the lifting (from April 2014) of bans on the sale of HIV self-testing kits and on healthcare workers with HIV carrying out certain dental and surgery procedures.