

## **HIV AND DENGUE FEVER**

### ***EPIDEMIOLOGY***

Dengue is endemic in the Caribbean. Many dengue fever outbreaks have been documented in the region with all three types of viruses (type 1, 2 and recently type 3). However, not enough data exist to draw a firm conclusion regarding the relationship between dengue fever and HIV. The natural history and clinical manifestations of co-infection with HIV and dengue has not been established; CAREC therefore encourages Caribbean clinicians and researchers to investigate this issue.

### ***MANAGEMENT OF THE PATIENT WITH DENGUE FEVER AND HIV INFECTION***

Caribbean clinicians should be careful when using ARV drugs or agents to treat HIV-related conditions that may induce anaemia or haemorrhagic reactions since these two clinical manifestations are common among patients infected with dengue. Close monitoring is warranted for these complications among HIV-infected individuals who contract dengue fever.

### ***DOCUMENTATION***

Given the paucity of data on this topic, clinicians *must document* a history of dengue infection among HIV-infected patients, as well as any observed unusual or unexplained clinical manifestations or adverse effects of medications used to treat HIV and HIV-related conditions among persons co-infected with HIV and dengue.