

The directives issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court for enhancing the extent and efficacy of treatment administered to PLHAs as under:-

*“... 9. All Doctors and nurses in the public sector and the private sector are directed to immediately familiarize themselves and comply with the protocols and policies as prepared by NACO. The Medical Council of India, Dental Council of India and the Nursing Council of India shall take steps to disseminate the NACO protocols and policies on their respective websites as well as on the websites of the State Medical and Nursing Councils. Further, the Medical Council of India as well as the Nursing Council of India shall ensure that these protocols are made part of the teaching curriculum/reading material at and disseminated to all Medical and Dental Colleges as well as other institutions for training of nurses and other health care professionals. The Medical Council of India, Dental Council of India and the Nursing Council of India are directed to file a compliance report within six weeks.*

*11. Doctors in the private sector, in particular, are directed to immediately familiarize themselves with the NACO's comprehensive protocols and policies with regard to care and treatment, which are available on NACO website. NACO approved ART regimen have proven to be cost effective, safe and PLHA have shown good response to these regimen. The private practitioners should use these cost effective regimen in the first instance and other regimens should be prescribed only in cases where these cannot be used for the reasons of toxicity/failure etc. The Medical Council of India and the Consumer Courts are to take a strict view of private practitioners who take advantage of the illiteracy and poverty to prescribe wrong or unnecessary regimens of drugs or charge exorbitant amounts. Irrational prescriptions using wrong dosages/wrong combinations shall be dealt with severely and appropriate action taken...”*