



Correspondence
 Jordan E. Lake, M.D., M.Sc.
 Jordan.E.Lake@uth.tmc.edu



Background

- Weight gain following antiretroviral therapy (ART) initiation occurs with all modern regimens.¹
- Recent real-world reports from small studies suggest that integrase strand transfer inhibitor (INSTI)-based ART may be associated with excess weight gain.²⁻⁴
- We assessed weight gain following switch to INSTI-based ART among AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) participants in protocols A5001 and A5322, which provide(d) long-term observational follow-up of PLWH previously enrolled in randomized interventional trials.

Methods

Study Design: Prospective, observational cohort

Inclusion Criteria

- HIV+
- Enrolled in A5001 or A5332 from 2007-2017
- Switched to INSTI-based ART during follow-up
- Further restricted to period ≤ 2 years before and after switch to INSTI and HIV-1 RNA < 200 copies/mL at time of switch

Statistical Analyses

- Within-person predicted weight trajectories were generated.
- Participants served as their own controls for estimation of background/age-related weight gain.
- Piecewise linear mixed effects models examined weight change before and after first switch to INSTI.
- Models were adjusted for age at switch, sex, race/ethnicity, baseline BMI and their interactions, nadir CD4+ T cell count, smoking history, diabetes and percent time with suppressed (< 200 copies/mL) HIV-1 RNA.
- Linear spline models with a single knot accounted for non-linear trends.

Results

Table 1. Participant characteristics at switch (N=691)

Age	51 (46, 57)
Male sex	82%
Black race	26%
Hispanic ethnicity	19%
CD4+ T lymphocyte count (cells/ μ L)	610 (439, 816)
Nadir CD4+ T lymphocyte count (cells/ μ L)	185 (67, 294)
Nadir CD4+ T lymphocyte count < 200 cells/ μ L	54%
BMI (kg/m ²)	26.9 (23.7, 30.3)
ART prior to switch	
PI	63%
NNRTI	35%
NRTI backbone at switch/with INSTI	
ABC	25%
TDF	49%
TAF	14%
Smoking history	57%
Diabetes mellitus	12%

BMI=body mass index, ART=antiretroviral therapy, PI=protease inhibitor, NRTI=non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor, NNRTI=non-NRTI, ABC=abacavir, TDF=tenofovir disoproxil fumarate, TAF=tenofovir alafenamide

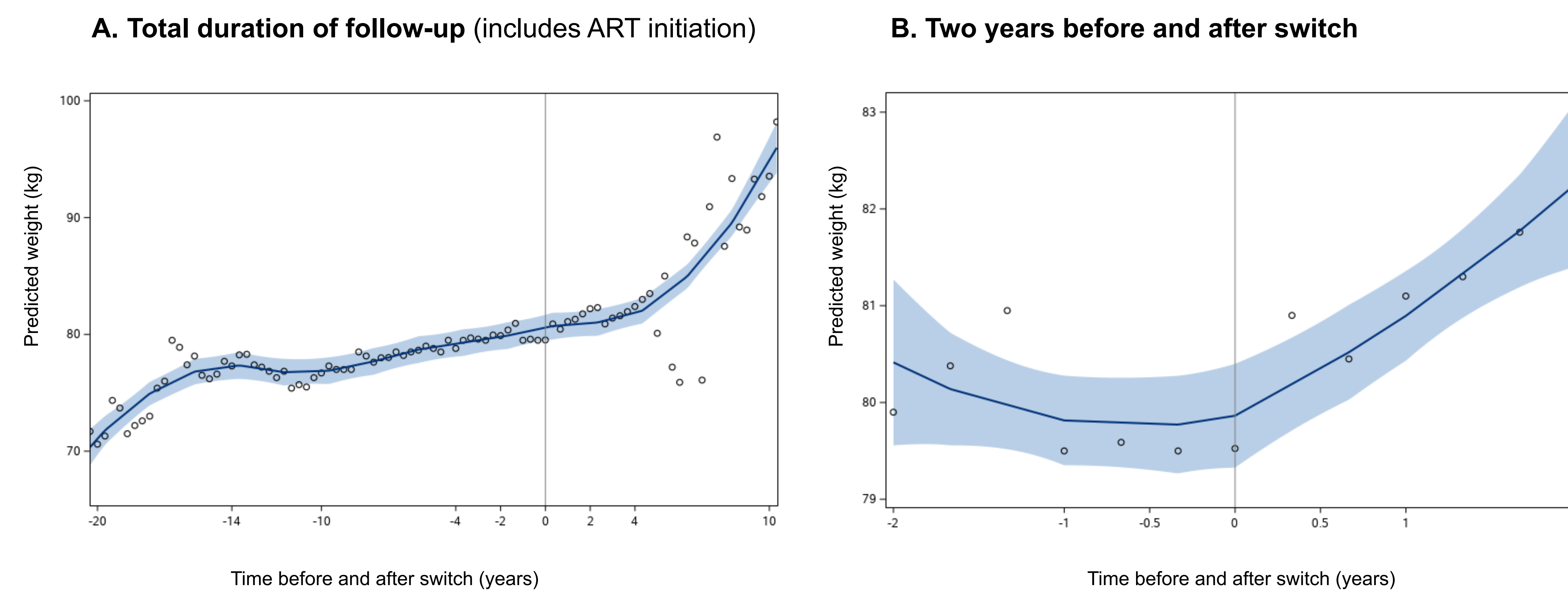
References and Acknowledgements

¹Lake et al. *CID*. 2017 May 15;64(10):1422-1429. ²Bakal et al. *JAC*. 2018 Aug 1;73(8):2177-2185. ³Norwood et al. *JAIDS*. 2017 Dec 15;76(5):527-531. ⁴Menard et al. *AIDS*. 2017 Jun 19;31(10):1499-1500.

The investigators thank the study staff and participants for their generous time and support. This work was funded by National Institutes of Health grants K23AI110532 to JEL, K23 AG050260 to KME, NIAID UM1 A1068636 (ACTG) and UM1 A1068634 (SDAC).

Results

Figure 1: Change in weight before and after switch to INSTI*



*For participants with HIV-1 RNA < 200 copies/mL at time of switch to INSTI (n=691).

Table 2: Annual rate of weight change pre-/post-switch to INSTI

	All	Women	Men	White race*	Black race	Age $< 40^{**}$	Age ≥ 60	BMI < 18.5 kg/m ^{2**}	BMI > 30 kg/m ²
Pre-INSTI	0.4 (< 0.0001)	0.3 (0.05)	0.5 (< 0.0001)	0.4 (< 0.0001)	0.3 (0.04)	1.1 (< 0.0001)	-0.03 (0.85)	0.8 (0.7)	0.02 (0.89)
Post-INSTI	0.6 (< 0.0001)	1.6 (< 0.0001)	0.4 (0.0009)	0.4 (0.002)	1.2 (< 0.0001)	-0.3 (0.42)	1.2 (< 0.0001)	1.3 (0.03)	0.5 (0.05)
Pre-post Difference	0.2 (0.22)	1.3 (0.0003)	-0.1 (0.57)	0.01 (0.97)	0.9 (0.002)	-1.4 (0.01)	1.2 (0.001)	0.5 (0.58)	0.5 (0.20)

*Results for Hispanic ethnicity similar to white race
 **No significant change in slope of weight gain among persons 40-60 years of age or for BMI 18.5-30 kg/m²

Table 3: Adjusted* annual rate of weight change by sex, race, age^{§§} and BMI^{¶¶¶} at switch**

	Black Women	White Women	Black Men	White Men	Women age ≤ 40	Women Age ≥ 60	Men age ≤ 40	Men Age ≥ 60	Women ≥ 30 kg/m ²
Pre-INSTI	0.4 (0.08)	0.6 (0.03)	0.4 (0.02)	0.4 (< 0.0001)	1.5 (0.01)	-0.2 (0.61)	0.8 (0.009)	0.1 (0.46)	0.2 (0.54)
Post-INSTI	1.3 (< 0.0001)	2.0 (< 0.0001)	1.0 (0.002)	0.2 (0.09)	-1.0 (0.17)	1.8 (0.0005)	-0.1 (0.88)	0.9 (0.0008)	1.9 (< 0.0001)
Pre-post Difference	0.9 (0.04)	1.4 (0.02)	0.6 (0.11)	-0.2 (0.38)	-2.5 (0.02)	2.0 (0.008)	-0.9 (0.20)	0.8 (0.04)	1.7 (0.002)

*Adjusted for factors listed in Methods
 **No significant change for Hispanic men or women
 §§Women 40-49 not significant, 50-59 similar to ≥ 60 ; Men 40-49 similar to ≤ 40 and 50-59 not significant
 ¶¶¶Non-obese women and men of any BMI category not significant

Figure 2: Weight gain pre-/post-switch to INSTI by agent

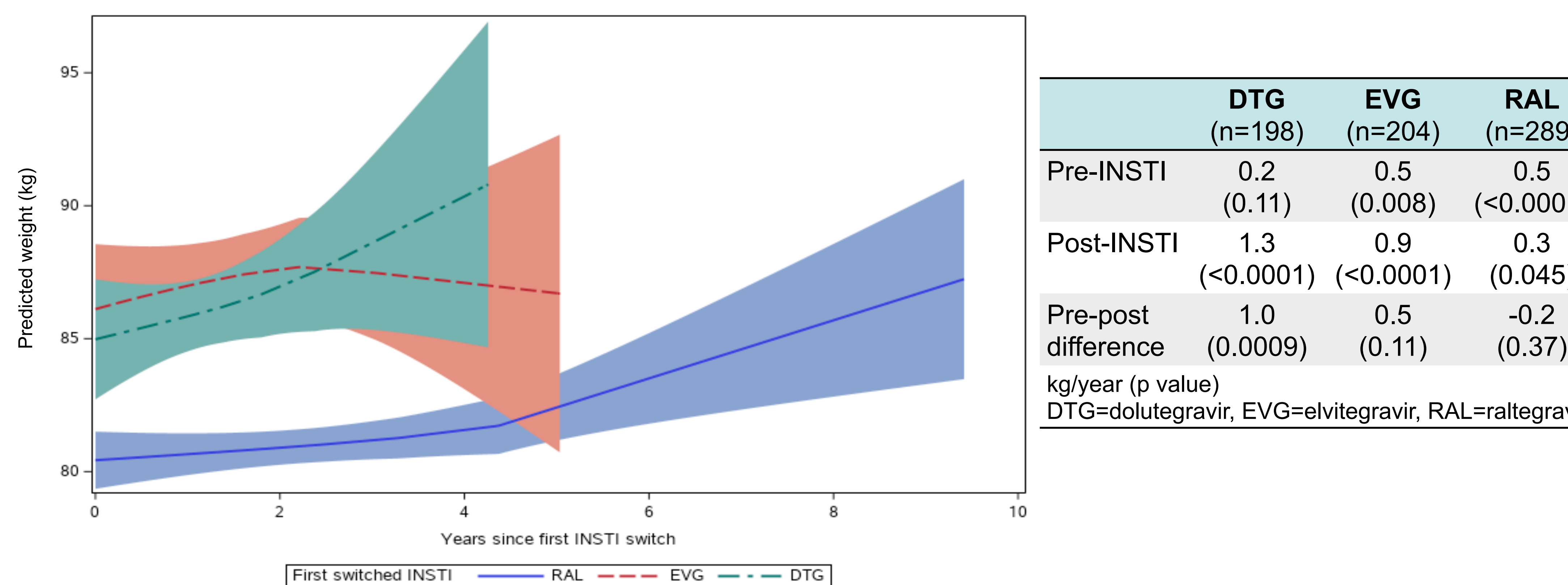
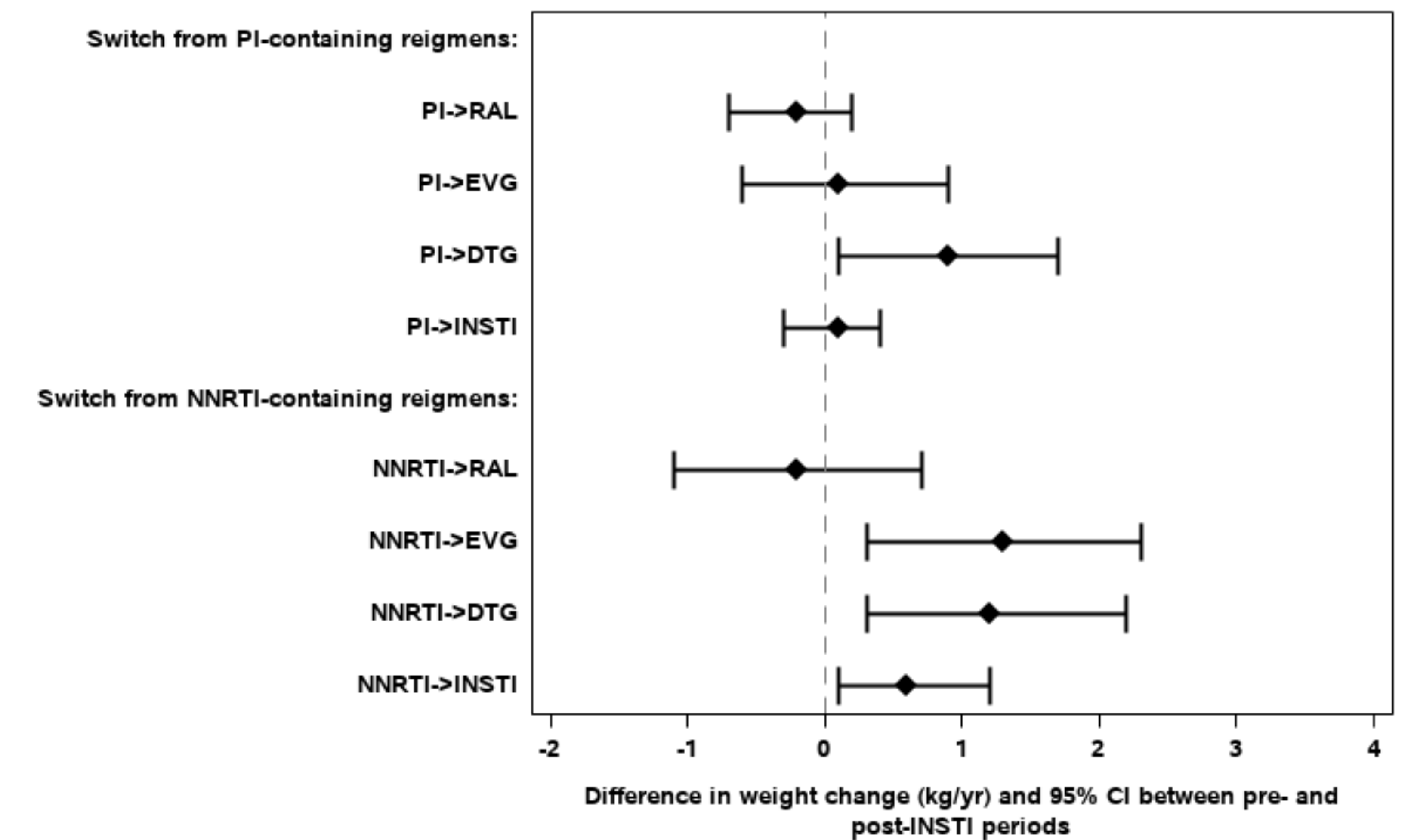
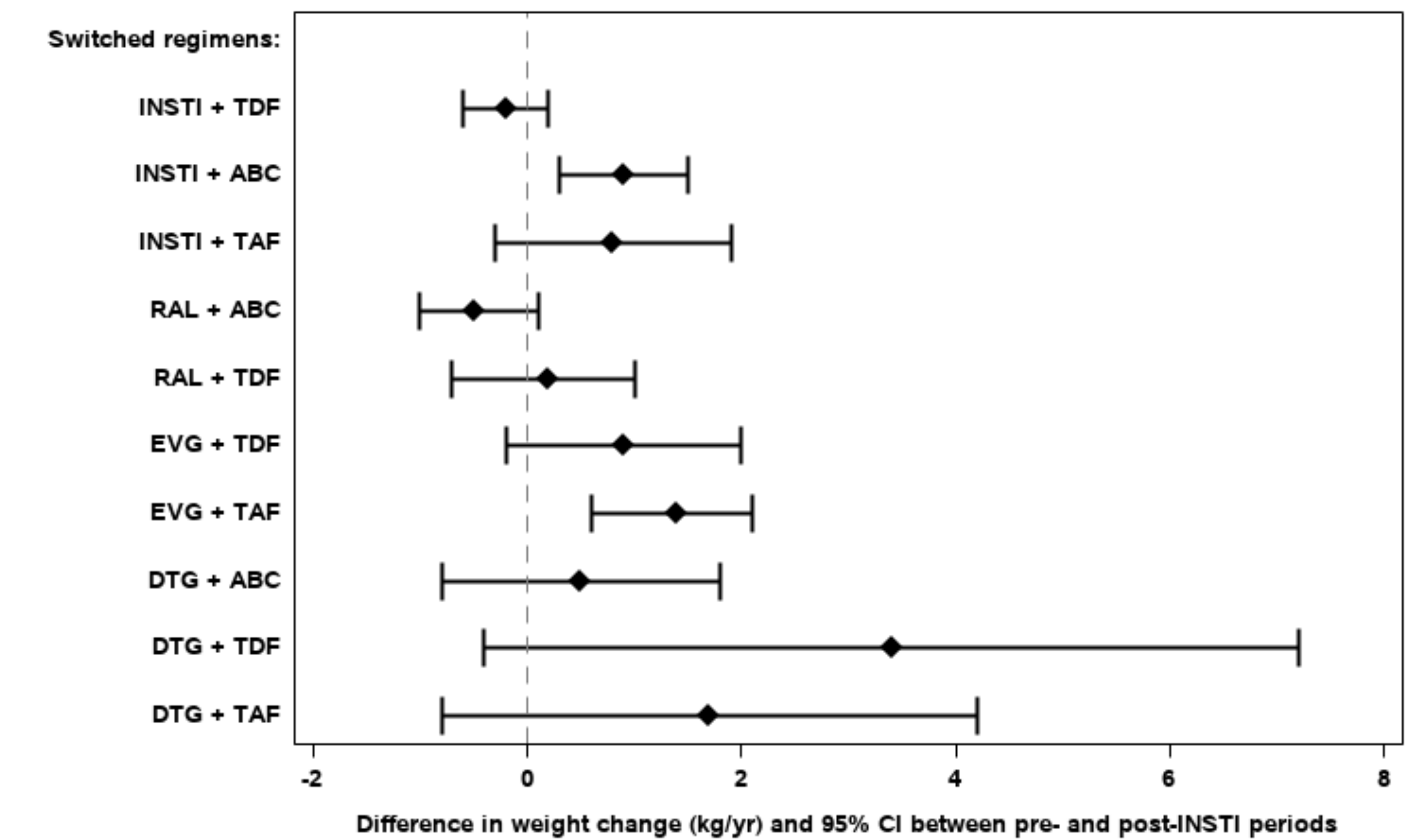


Figure 3: Annual weight gain by pre-switch ART class



- Switch to DTG from PI or NNRTI, and switch to EVG from NNRTI statistically significant ($p < 0.05$), though subset analyses limited by sample size.

Figure 4: Annual weight gain by NRTI backbone at switch



- Switch to any INSTI with ABC and switch to EVG with TAF statistically significant ($p < 0.05$), though subset analyses limited by sample size.
- 61% of ABC, 87% TDF, 4% of TAF use at switch to INSTI had same NRTI backbone pre-switch

Summary & Conclusions

In this cohort of adults with HIV on suppressive ART and long-term observational follow-up after participation in ACTG interventional trials:

- Annual within-person weight gain increased following switch to INSTI-based ART.
- Increases in weight gain following switch to INSTI were most prominent for women, blacks and persons age ≥ 60 .
- Compared to pre-switch weight changes on stable suppressive ART, these data suggest post-switch increases in weight/fat mass greater than expected for age.
- Change in rate of weight gain following switch to INSTI appears greater with dolutegravir than elvitegravir or raltegravir.
- Although further studies are needed, choice of NRTI backbone may modify INSTI-associated weight gain.
- The cardiometabolic implications of increased weight gain following switch to INSTI-based ART need to be established.