

**Table S1.** Determination of relevant parameter space for further investigation.

Par. set	$(1 - \eta)$	$s$	failure rate	relevant
R1	0.7	0.3	22% ( $\pm 6.4$ )	yes
R2	0.7	0.25	22% ( $\pm 6.4$ )	yes
R3	0.7	0.2	53% ( $\pm 9.8$ )	yes
R4	0.75	0.25	3% ( $\pm 3.3$ )	yes
R5	0.75	0.2	18% ( $\pm 7.5$ )	yes
R6	0.8	0.2	2% ( $\pm 2.7$ )	yes
R7	0.8	0.15	21% ( $\pm 8$ )	yes
R8	0.8	0.1	51% ( $\pm 9.8$ )	yes
R9	0.85	0.15	5% ( $\pm 4.3$ )	yes
R10	0.85	0.1	14% ( $\pm 6.8$ )	yes
R11	0.85	0.05	64% ( $\pm 9.4$ )	yes
R12	0.9	0.05	2% ( $\pm 2.7$ )	yes
N13	0.7	0.15	90% ( $\pm 5.9$ )	no
N14	0.7	0.1	100% (-)	no
N15	0.7	0.05	100% (-)	no
N16	0.75	0.3	1% ( $\pm 2$ )	no
N17	0.75	0.15	68% ( $\pm 9.14$ )	no
N18	0.75	0.1	99% ( $\pm 1$ )	no
N19	0.75	0.05	100% (-)	no
N20	0.8	0.3	0% (-)	no
N21	0.8	0.25	0% (-)	no
N22	0.8	0.05	100% (-)	no
N23	0.85	0.3	0% (-)	no
N24	0.85	0.25	0% (-)	no
N25	0.85	0.2	0% (-)	no
N26	0.9	0.3	0% (-)	no
N27	0.9	0.25	0% (-)	no
N28	0.9	0.2	0% (-)	no
N29	0.9	0.15	0% (-)	no
N30	0.9	0.1	0% (-)	no
N31	0.95	0.3	0% (-)	no
N32	0.95	0.25	0% (-)	no
N33	0.95	0.2	0% (-)	no
N34	0.95	0.15	0% (-)	no
N35	0.95	0.1	0% (-)	no
N36	0.95	0.05	0% (-)	no

We assessed virological failure rates after one year of triple drug therapy for varying values of efficacy ( $1 - \eta(wt, j)$ ) of drug  $j$  against the wildtype  $wt$  and selective disadvantage per mutation  $s$ . All other parameters have been taken from Table 1. A parameter combination (in terms of  $(1 - \eta(wt, j))$  and  $s$ ) was considered relevant, if it produced realistic failure rates after one year of therapy [1]. Confidence ranges are indicated in brackets and were calculated using Greenwood's formula. Each condition has been evaluated by 100 stochastic deterministic simulations.

## References

1. Riddler SA, Haubrich R, DiRienzo AG, Peeples L, Powderly WG, et al. (2008) Class-sparing regimens for initial treatment of HIV-1 infection. *N Engl J Med* 358: 2095–2106.