

Module 2

Natural history and clinical aspects

HIV basic knowledge and stigma reduction in health care settings

Module goals

Module 2: Natural history and clinical aspects

Module 1

Participants will be able to:

- offer an insight into the epidemiological situation in the country and worldwide
- present the HIV transmission modes and the broad approaches to prevention
- implement post-exposure prophylaxis for HIV in the health care environment.

Module 2

Participants will be able to:

- describe the natural history of the HIV infection
- expose the main circumstances in which the HIV infection is discovered
- describe some of the clinical manifestations of the HIV/AIDS infection.

Module 3

Participants will be able to:

- name the techniques used for the biological diagnosis of the HIV infection
- argue the need to comply with ethical and confidentiality imperatives in the health care environment
- name the interventions to reduce HIV stigma and discrimination in health care settings.

Module 4

Participants will be able to:

- inform a PLHIV about how care is organized in the country
- inform a PLHIV about the principles of care
- inform parents about the care available for a newborn baby, infant or child infected by HIV
- argue the need for optimal adherence to antiretroviral therapy.

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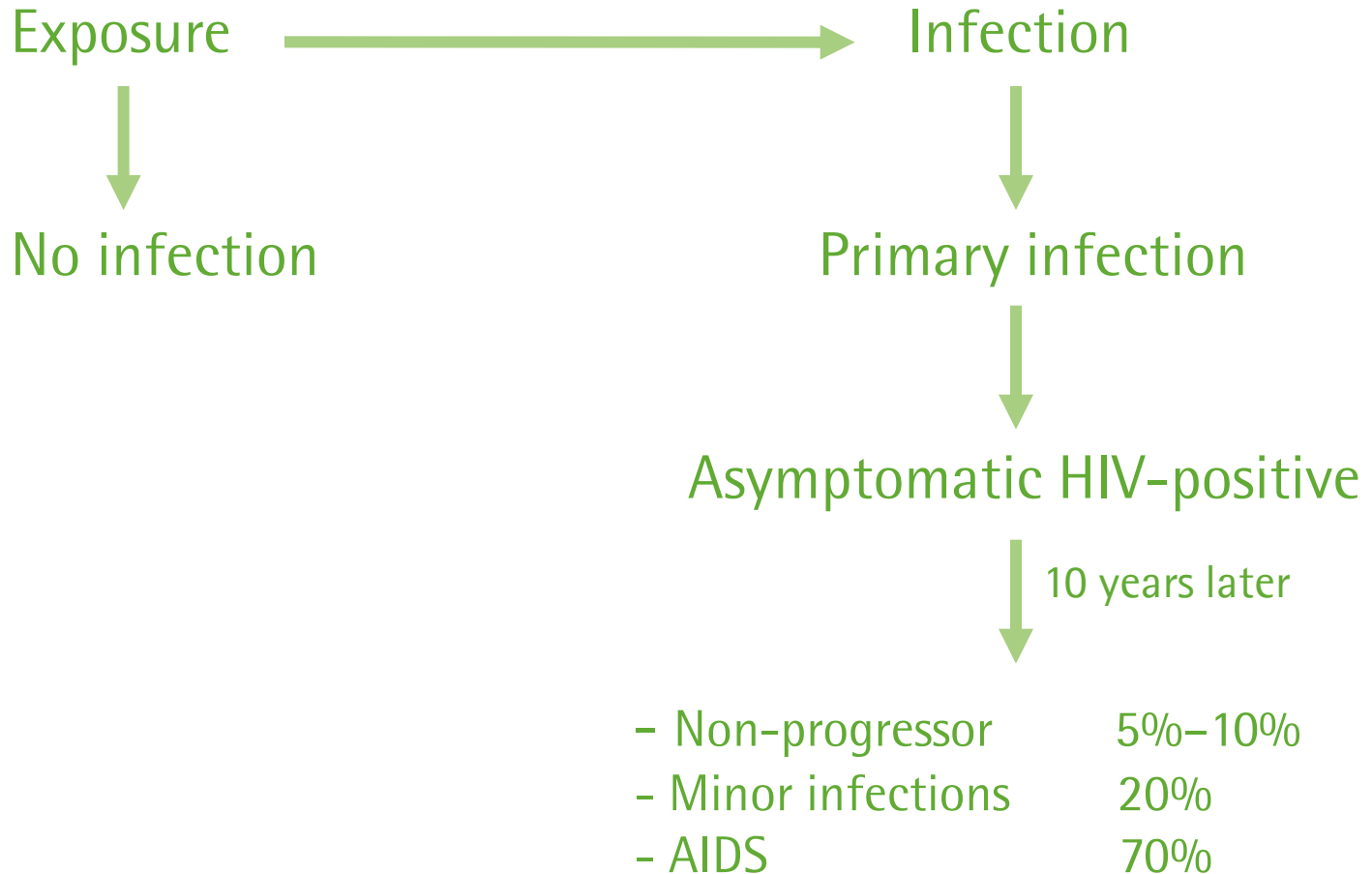
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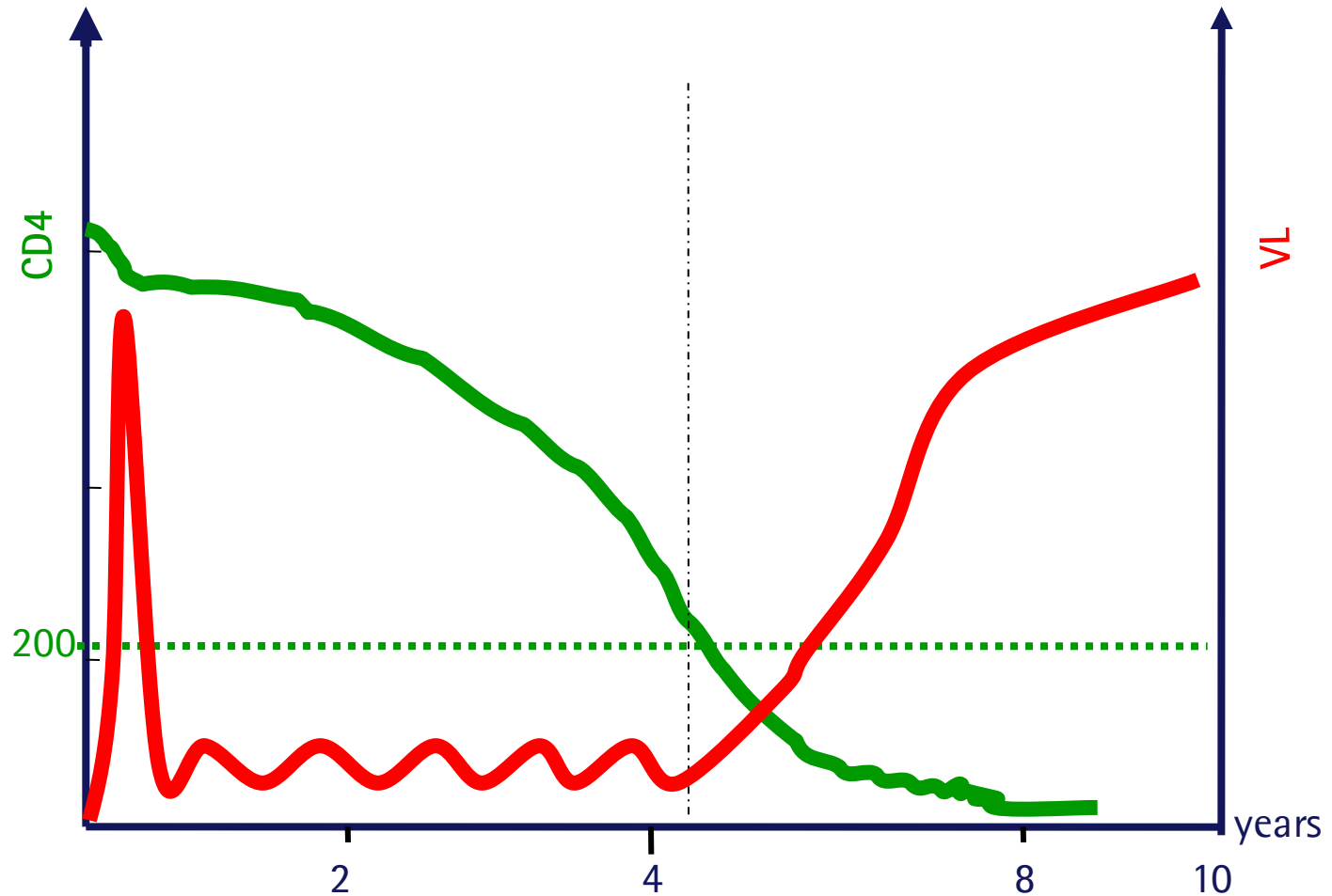
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Natural history of the HIV infection

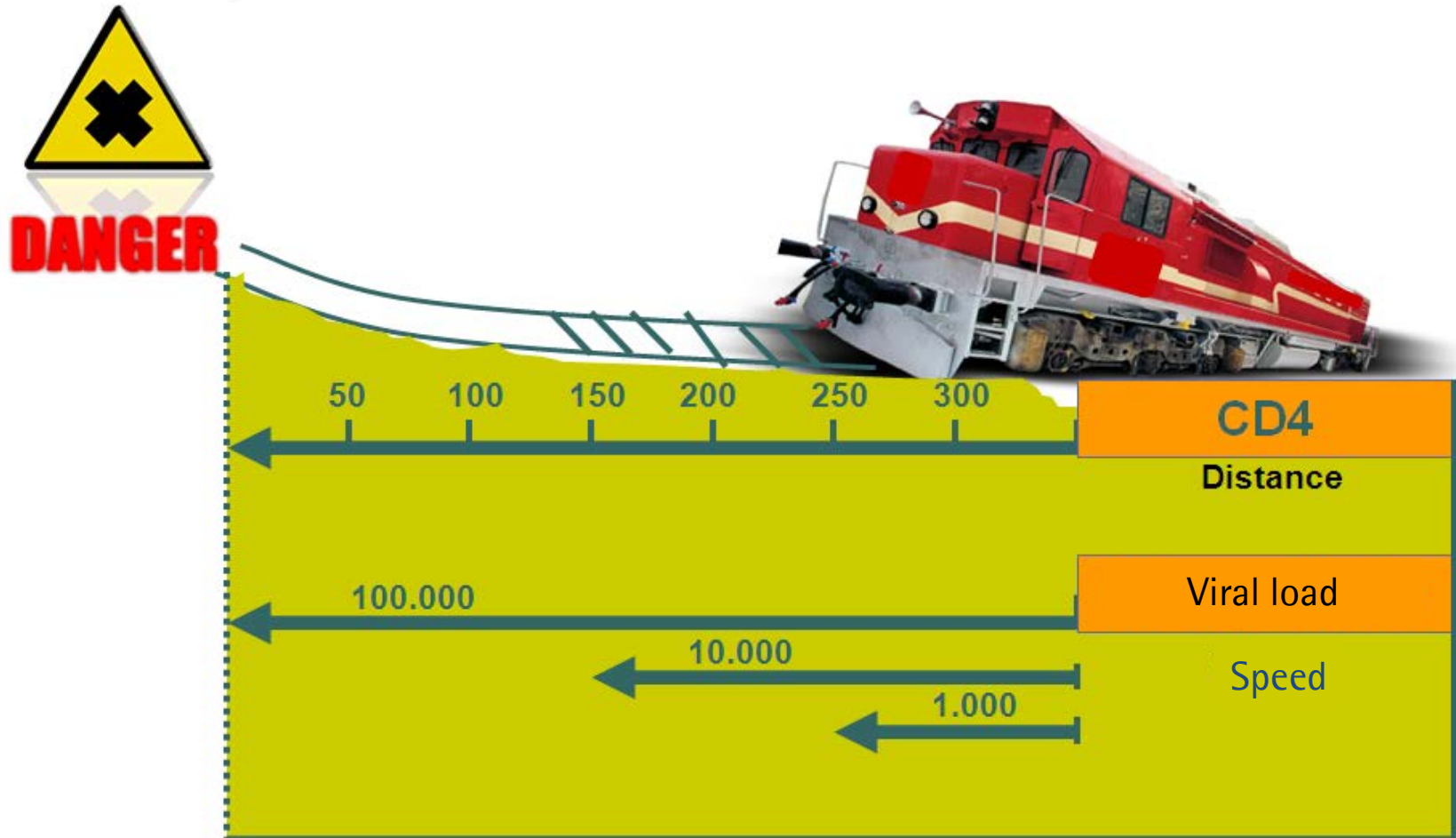
Natural history



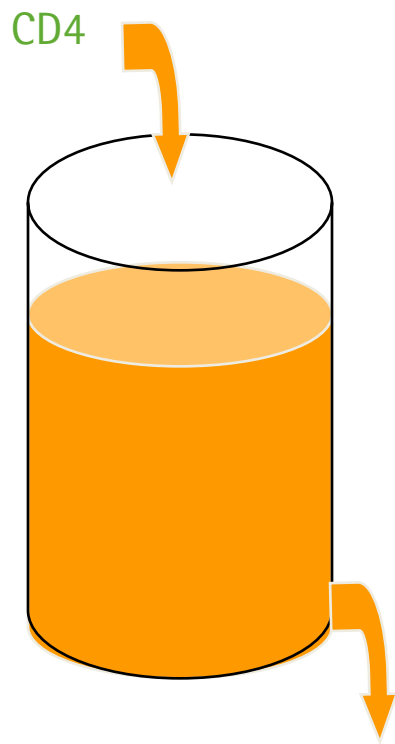
Evolution of CD4 and viral load



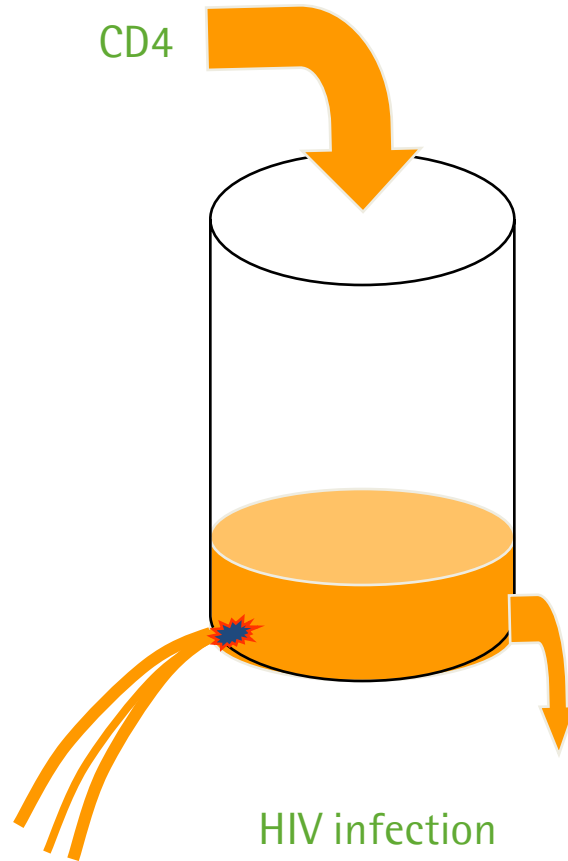
Two essential parameters (CD4 and viral load)



Destruction of CD4

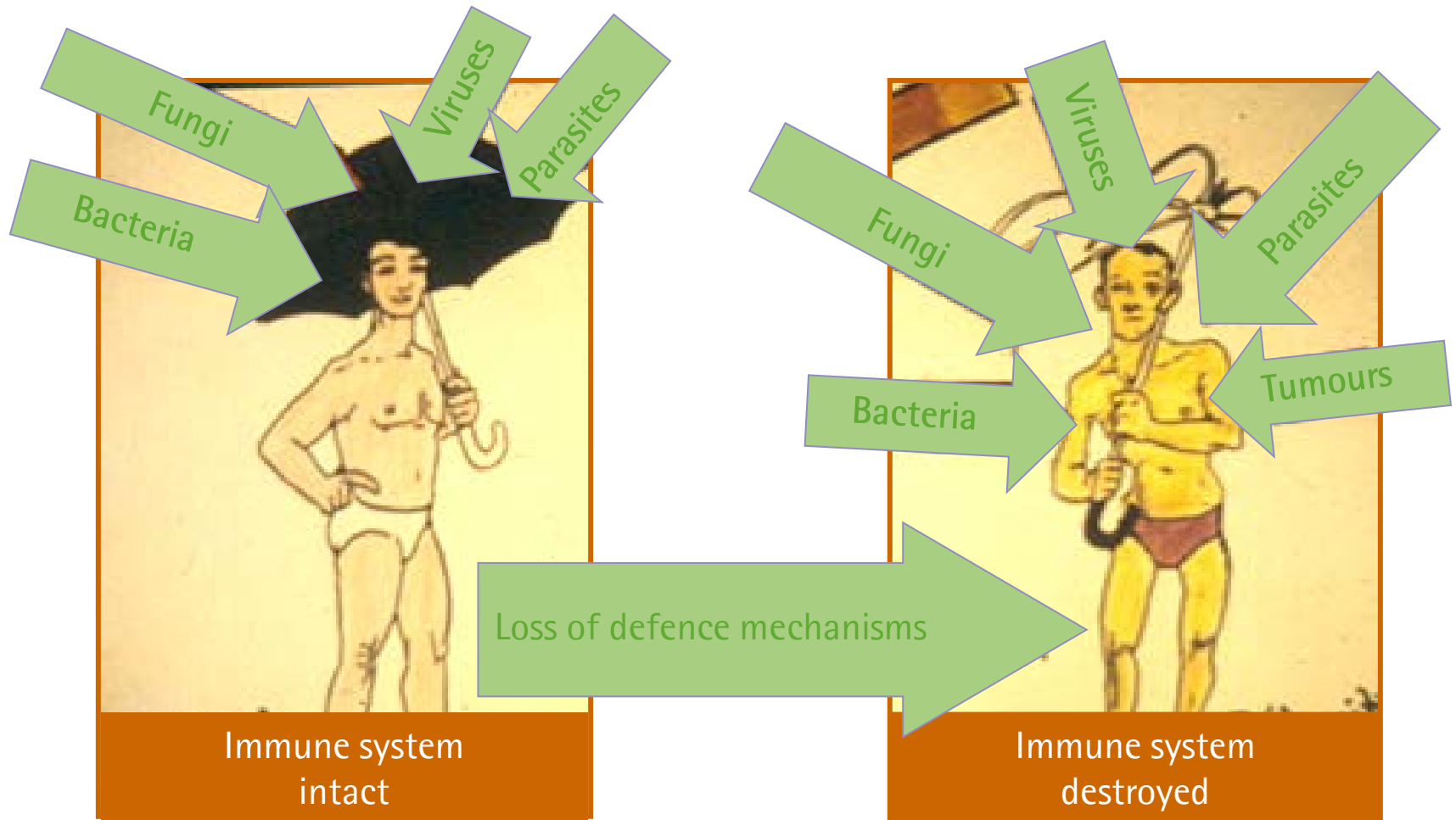


Normal

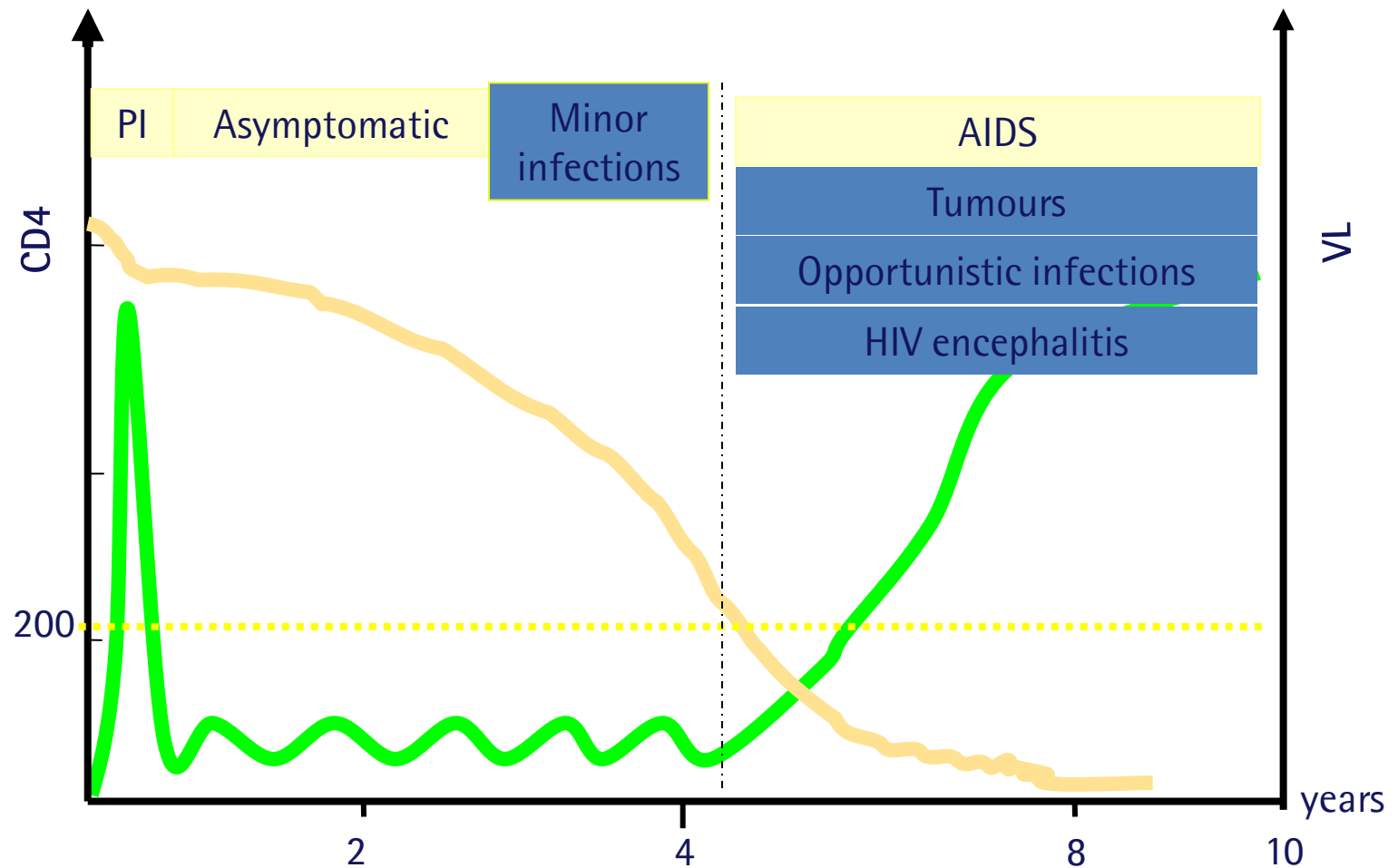


HIV infection

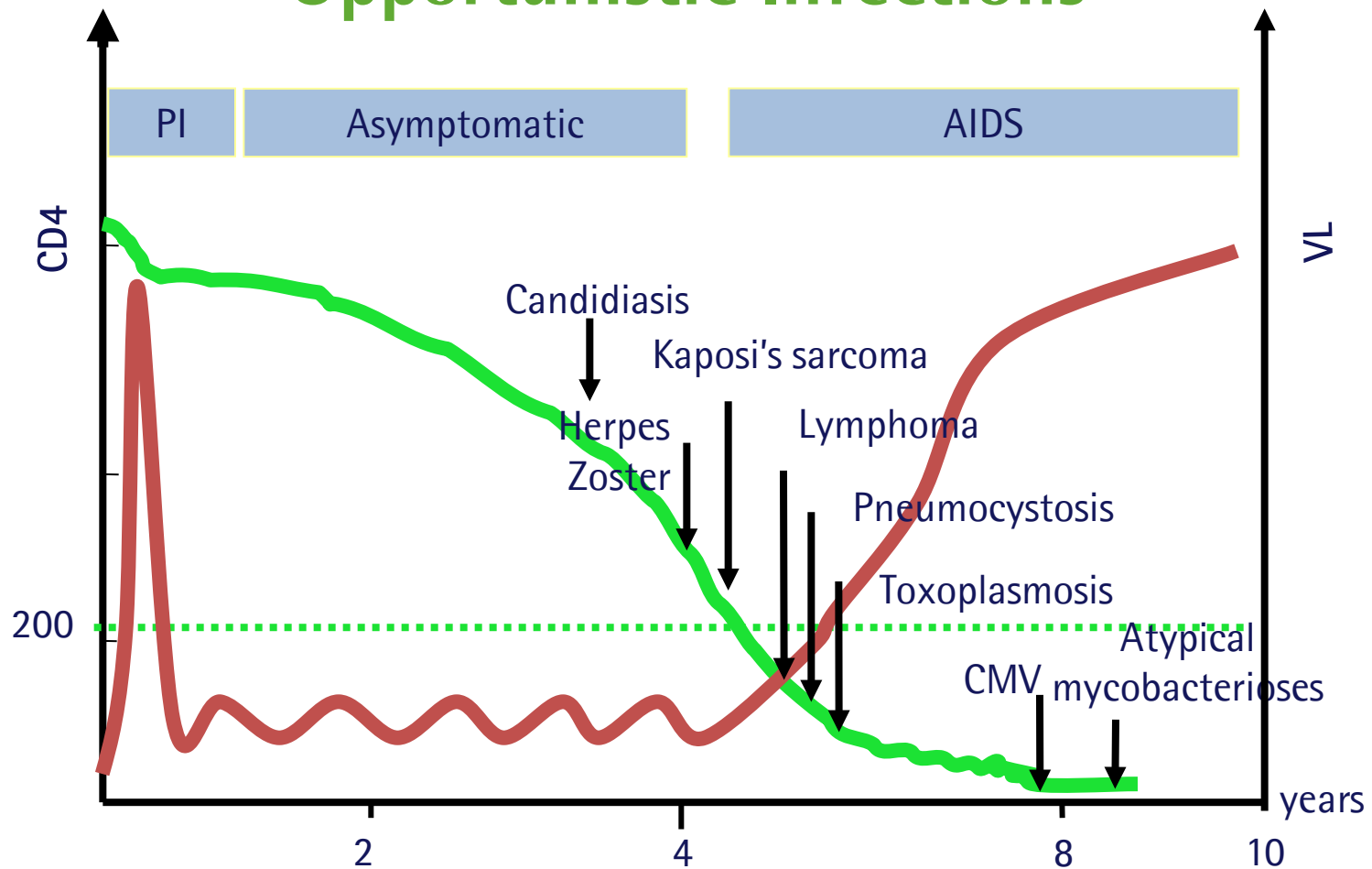
Consequences of the reduction of CD4 T lymphocytes



Clinical and biological correlation



Rate of CD4 decline and occurrence of Opportunistic Infections

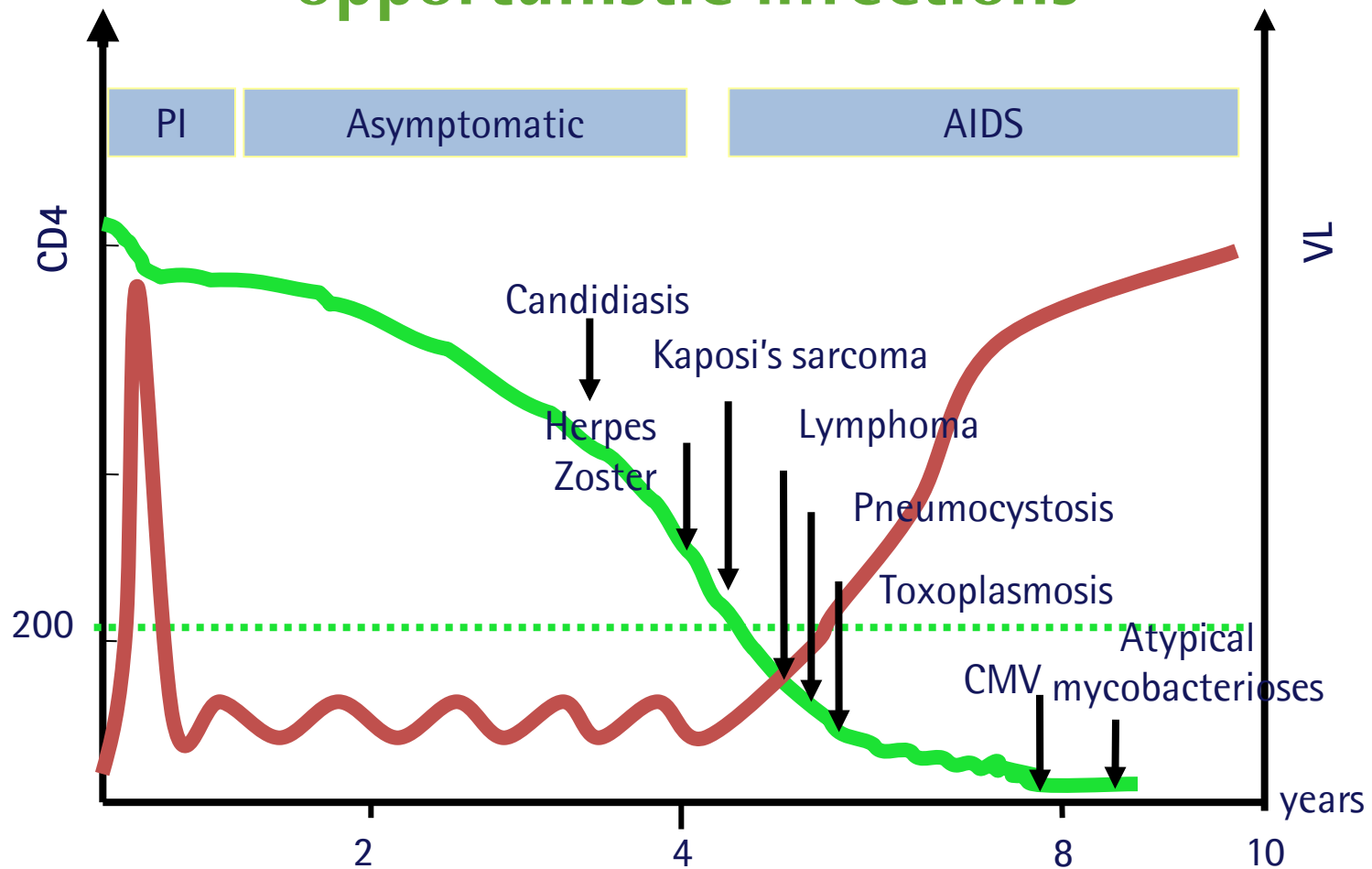


Antiretroviral therapy

- Can modify the natural history of HIV infection
- Can inhibit viral multiplication and consequently restore cell immunity

Classifications of HIV infection

Rate of CD4 decline and occurrence of opportunistic infections



Basis of classification

Cases of HIV infection are classified as follows

- According to clinical manifestations: primary infection, general signs, minor infections, opportunistic infections, HIV-related tumours...
- According to degree of immunodeficiency: CD4 T lymphocyte count
- According to age: adults and adolescents, children

Different classifications

WHO classification

- Stage I: asymptomatic infection or lymphadenopathy
- Stage II: moderate infection
- Stage III: advanced infection
- Stage IV: severe infection

CDC classification

(Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta)
Category A, B and C



Definition of AIDS: depends on choice of
classification

Classification used in the country

Definition of AIDS used in the country