



2022 Top HIV Science Stories

This year's most widely viewed science news focused on HIV cure research, monkeypox and post-exposure prophylaxis for sexually transmitted infections.

December 28, 2022 By [Liz Highleyman](#) and Ian Anderson

In the third year of the pandemic, [COVID-19](#)—and in particular [long COVID](#)— continued to be a concern for POZ readers (No. 11 and 17). But it was overshadowed by a new infectious disease that mainly impacted gay men: [monkeypox](#), now renamed mpox (No. 4, 9, 12 and 18). Although mpox cases have declined dramatically since the outbreak's peak in July and August, it remains a threat for people living with HIV, especially those with a detectable viral load or a low CD4 cell count (No. 5 and 8).

Now that antiretroviral treatment and HIV [pre-exposure prophylaxis \(PrEP\)](#) are highly effective and widely used, new therapies are not getting as much attention. But researchers did present findings suggesting that the long-acting treatment Cabenuva (cabotegravir and rilpivirine) [might be appropriate for more people](#) and that injectable treatment and PrEP could potentially be [self-administered](#). And just last week—too late to make it into the annual ranking—the Food and Drug Administration approved the first HIV capsid inhibitor, [Sunlenca \(lenacapavir\)](#), as a twice-yearly treatment option for people with highly resistant HIV.

POZ readers also took an interest in a new prevention tool: using the antibiotic doxycycline after sex to prevent sexually transmitted infections, an approach dubbed doxyPEP (No. 13).

Finally, readers continue to eagerly seek HIV cure news (No. 6 and 16). While last year's top stories prominently featured HIV vaccines, this year's ranking includes a wide variety of experimental approaches, including checkpoint inhibitors (No. 1), CAR-T therapy (No. 2), mRNA vaccines (No. 14), broadly neutralizing antibodies (No. 10, 15 and 19) and—too late for the ranking—[CRISPR gene editing](#) to snip HIV out of cells.

Here are the POZ science news stories with the most views this year:

1. [Cancer Immunotherapy Flushes HIV Out of Hiding](#)

Posted: February 9

2. [Researchers Explore CAR-T Therapy as a Potential Cure for HIV](#)

Posted: November 28

3. [A Majority of Transgender Women With HIV Are Undetectable](#)

Posted: January 25

4. [Study Reveals Novel Monkeypox Symptoms and Transmission Routes](#)

Posted: July 23

5. [A Large Proportion of Men with Monkeypox Are Living With HIV](#)

Posted: August 23

6. [People Who Start HIV Treatment With High CD4s Have a Smaller Viral Reservoir](#)

Posted: July 6

7. [Widely Used Meds Linked to Falls and Frailty in Older People With HIV](#)

Posted: April 13

8. [Monkeypox: What Do People Living With or at Risk for HIV Need to Know?](#)

Posted: June 15

9. [Monkeypox Reaches Multiple Countries, Including U.S.](#)

Posted: May 24

10. [Broadly Neutralizing Antibody Leads to Long-Term HIV Remission](#)

Posted: May 11

11. [Long COVID Symptoms Linked to Inflammation](#)

Posted: June 29

12. [Monkeypox Is Not Airborne, CDC Says](#)

Posted: June 16

13. [Taking Antibiotics After Sex Reduces STI Risk](#)

Posted: August 15

14. [HIV mRNA Vaccine Trial Is Now Underway](#)

Posted: January 28

15. [Broadly Neutralizing Antibody Shows Promise for Long-Acting HIV Treatment](#)

Posted: November 23

16. [Understanding Where HIV Hides Offers Clues for a Cure](#)

Posted: January 17

17. [A Majority of People With HIV Have Asymptomatic COVID](#)

Posted: April 20

18. [Monkeypox Heavily Impacts Black and Latino Gay Men](#)

Posted: August 18

19. [Broadly Neutralizing Antibodies Delay HIV Rebound](#)

Posted: April 27

20. [Gay Latino Men at Highest Risk for HIV Are Five Times More Likely to Use PrEP](#)

Posted: March 24

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