



B and Thee

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Got HIV *and* hepatitis B? French docs recently found that HIV/B types, especially those with 200 T cells or less, fared worse on interferon than B-only folks. But even when the drug fails to fully clear B (or C, the docs noted), ongoing therapy (at a far lower, gentler dose) helped stave off dread cirrhosis. More good news? Docs at Washington U. reported that when they added Viread (tenofovir) to six HIV/B coinfecteds' cocktails, hep B levels dropped...in two patients, to undetectable! Lesson 2 B learned? Viread should be in all HIV/B types' cocktails, says New York's Douglas Dieterich, MD.

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