POS/NEG

May 1, 2000

POS

Telkom, a South African telephone company, pledged in February to purchase 5 million condoms to distribute to its 58,000 workers at a rate of about 100,000 condoms each week for a year. The company also offers testing and counseling services.

New York City and Boston residents can now get post-exposure prevention—an AZT/3TC combo given within 72 hours of possible exposure to HIV—from selected doctors and hospitals upon request. San Francisco has run a similar program successfully since 1998.

A group of Zimbabwean students formed the Pledge 25 Club. Members promise to practice safer sex, not use drugs and to give blood every three or four months until they've reached the goal of 25 donations.

NEG

Hundreds of HIV positive clients of New York City's Human Resources Administration have been unable to reach their caseworkers for six months because agency staff at the Bronx's Bergen Center have no telephones, reported the New York Post in January.

The CDC came under fire in January for diverting funds for hantavirus research to other diseases. The next month, the former chief of their vaccine department—who now works at VaxGen—was revealed by the Chicago Tribune to have been directly involved in allocating $8 mil in grants to his new employer.

An experimental vaccine project in Kenya studying 43 sex workers thought to be immune to HIV—they'd been repeatedly exposed to poz clients—was stalled when six of the women tested positive, said New Scientist magazine in January.

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