A Very, Very Brief History of HIV

Check out this timeline of the HIV/AIDS in the United States from 1981 to the present.

April 1, 2019 By Trent Straube

June 5, 1981:

The CDC publishes the first official report on what became known as AIDS.

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March 2, 1985:

The FDA licenses the first commercial blood test, ELISA, for HIV.

May 1, 1986:

The virus that causes AIDS is officially called human immunodeficiency virus, or HIV.

The first issue of POZ, April 1994

March 19, 1987:

The FDA OKs the first AIDS med, AZT (zidovudine).

April 1994:

POZ magazine launches.

Oct. 31, 1995:

Thus far, 500,000 cases of AIDS have been reported in the U.S. It’s the No. 1 cause of death for Americans ages 25 to 44.

1996:

The FDA OKs Viramune and Norvir, launching the era of highly effective HIV treatment. Within a year, AIDS-related deaths in the U.S. decline 47 percent.

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Jan. 4, 2010:

U.S. lifts its HIV travel ban; visitors and immigrants with HIV can enter the country.

July 16, 2012:

The FDA approves Truvada as PrEP.

Sept. 27, 2017:

There’s “effectively no risk” of sexual transmission of HIV if undetectable, says the CDC, confirming the message of U=U.

Discover more HIV milestones at POZ.com/aidsiseveryday.

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