Continental Drift

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It’s always fascinating to see how medical perspectives vary by nationality and culture. Take, for instance, the United Kingdom, which follows the U.S. lead on many HIV-treatment questions but still expresses differences in some key areas. As POZ reported last month, the new antiretroviral guidelines of the British HIV Association are considerably more conservative (that is, advocating a longer wait before intervention) than the American version. And surveys show that the British public, including PWAs, are increasingly using complementary medicine (particularly herbs and acupuncture), which is starting to be covered by the National Health Service. Britain is able to sustain two magazines based on a holistic approach to treating HIV, Continuum (see p. 41) and Equilibrium (phone/fax: 011.44.171.226.8536). So now and then, perhaps we’d all benefit from peering across the sea to consider another way of looking at life-and-death decisions.

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