Cure: Misleading Reports Say Cure Is Near

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After the United Kingdom's The Telegraph ran an April 27 article titled "Scientists on brink of HIV cure," word shot through numerous news outlets around the globe and ran rampant through social media that the virus's days were numbered. The report concerned a small, ongoing and as-yet-unpublished Phase I research study of histone deacetylase (HDAC) inhibitors, conducted by a Danish research team. Various scientists are studying HDAC inhibitors as a means to flush HIV from the viral reservoir. One of the team's leaders, Ole Søgaard, MD, a senior researcher at the Aarhus University Hospital in Denmark, told POZ, "No, I would not say that we are on the brink of an HIV cure, and I can say for sure that I never said we were. It would have been great if the story had been angled in a less sensational way." HIV activists pressured The Telegraph to revise the story and issue a correction. The Danish hospital released a statement saying that "a cure for HIV is an achievable goal, but most likely it will take many years."

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