



Cure: Triple bnAb Cocktail

To overcome resistance and neutralize more HIV strains, researchers tested a combination of three broadly neutralizing antibodies (bnAbs).

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A combination of three broadly neutralizing antibodies (bnAbs) may maintain viral suppression for several months after antiretroviral treatment interruption. People with HIV normally produce antibodies, but these usually don't recognize evolving viral mutations. A small proportion naturally produce bnAbs that target conserved parts of the virus. To overcome resistance and neutralize more HIV strains, researchers tested a combination of three bnAbs, dubbed PGT121, PGDM1400 and VRC07-523LS. Twelve people with HIV received up to six monthly infusions of the bnAbs, stopping antiretrovirals two days after the first dose. Two participants experienced early viral rebound, but 10 of the 12 (83%) maintained an undetectable viral load throughout the dosing period, and five (42%) had viral suppression for about a year, even after blood bnAb levels fell. Early viral rebound was associated with baseline resistance to PGT121 and PGDM1400. These results suggest the triple bnAb cocktail could replace antiretrovirals for a prolonged period but only in people without preexisting resistance.

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