The 25th Anniversary of an HIV Milestone

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On May 20, the 25th anniversary of the publishing of the first scientific research paper identifying HIV, AIDS experts say that new researchers, increased funding, and novel ideas are needed to invigorate the fight against HIV/AIDS, Agence France-Presse reports (afp.google.com, 5/19).

At a meeting in Paris on May 19, the experts—who included Luc Montagnier and Robert Gallo, two researchers credited with the discovery of the virus—said that there have been remarkable successes in the fight against HIV/AIDS, including the introduction of the "triple cocktail" of drugs in the mid-1990s, which has helped prolong the lives of people with HIV.

According to Agence France-Presse, the meeting's attendees also discussed the failures of AIDS vaccine trials and a vaginal gel to protect women from contracting the virus.

"We need to go back to the question of basic research, to have new ideas, new teams, to take a new look at cellular biology," said Jean-Francois Delfraissy, director of France's National Agency for AIDS Research (ANRS).

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