



Domande e Risposte (Trattamento)

D. C'è una cura per l'HIV/AIDS?

R. No. Non ci sono cure o vaccini per l'HIV/AIDS. C'è un trattamento per coloro che vivono con l'HIV/AIDS in modo da allungare la loro vita e renderla migliore.

D. Qual'è il trattamento per l'HIV/AIDS?

R. Il trattamento per l'HIV/AIDS è stato sviluppato per la prima volta nel 1986. Oggi esistono diversi tipi di trattamenti, ma non una cura. Quello più conosciuto è l'HAART: Trattamento Anti-Retrovirale Super Attivo. Un altro è la Nevirapine, un trattamento alquanto economico che aiuta a prevenire il contagio madre – figlio.

D. Perché ci sono tanti trattamenti diversi?

R. HIV è un virus in continua mutazione. Muta come tante altre malattie. A causa di ciò, i trattamenti diventano meno efficienti. Immaginiamo il virus come un'ananas. Il the time. As the virus changes the treatments become less effective. If we imagine that the virus has the shape of a regular pineapple but sometimes we see other shapes of pineapples, for example with two tops. This small change might alter the way the something acts, in the case of HIV it may make the treatment no longer effective. Additionally, HIV is making these small changes very quickly and all the time. The development that the virus makes when it overcomes the treatment is called resistance. Resistance to treatment is one of the greatest problems in treatment, and is also the reason why so many types of treatments have been developed in the last two decades.

D. Can the treatments hurt you?

R. Treatments do have downsides. Above, resistance was mentioned. Another is the side-effects of treatment, such as nausea. Treatments also have difficult schedules, such as food requirements and odd hourly demands. However, HIV/AIDS treatment has been called the as giving the "Lazarus effect." Lazarus is person from the New Testament who Jesus brought back to life after he had died. Many people see these treatments giving new life to people almost near death. Treatments are sometimes difficult to take and are not problem-free, but they are a great option for people living with HIV/AIDS, a longer life also means fewer orphaned children.

D. What is the role of cost?

R. Cost plays a very large role in the debate over treatment. Originally the treatments were very expensive, only the wealthy could afford them. Changes have occurred since 2001 that have made treatments cheaper, however they still are quite costly – about \$280 per year.