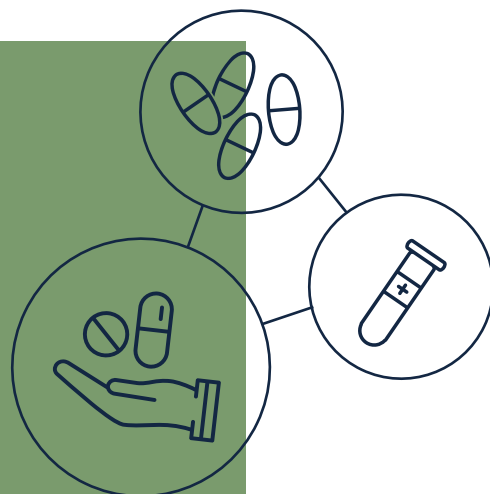


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# Are you on the best HIV treatment?



There are so many different HIV treatments available today that everybody is now able to find a combination that is best for them.

Some treatment decisions will be based on whether you have a pre-existing medical condition. Others will be determined by your body's individual characteristics. Everyone is different and some people respond better to certain treatments than others.

The first priority of treatment is to suppress HIV and achieve an undetectable viral load. That way it will reduce inflammation, protect you against opportunistic infections, preserve your immune system and brain function, and make it virtually impossible for you to pass on HIV.

But treatment effectiveness means more than that. It should also be easy to take. Ask yourself: How well does your

treatment fit into your daily life? And is there a better combination than the one you are on? Remember, it is completely reasonable to consider changing treatment if you are experiencing any side effects at all.

Three-drug combinations have long been the standard, but nowadays some two-drug regimens are just as effective. Fewer drugs can mean less chance of side effects or long-term toxicity. **Talk to your doctor to see if you are on the right treatment for you.**

Studies now show that the earlier you start HIV treatment the better your long term health benefits. Starting early reduces the risk of serious illnesses and death, and people who begin HIV

treatment early have a better quality of life than those who wait.

See START study results



<http://napwha.org.au/news-information/positive-living/start-says-start>

**information/positive-living/start-says-start**

Starting treatment soon after seroconversion has added benefits. In its early stages, HIV develops reservoirs in the body and early treatment can reduce these. This is very important if the current trajectory of cure research turns out to be successful.



For more information about cure, visit the HIV Cure website <http://hivcure.com.au/>

Numerous studies also show that HIV treatment reduces the amount of HIV in your body so well that it is virtually impossible for you to transmit it to another person.



See PARTNER study results <http://napwha.org.au/zero>