The HIV Vaccine Trials Network is an international partnership of research scientists, clinical trial sites, and community representatives working with industry and governments in the global search for a preventive HIV vaccine. Supported through a cooperative agreement with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) of the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Network conducts all phases of clinical trials, from evaluating study vaccines and antibodies for safety and the ability to stimulate immune responses, to testing vaccine and antibody efficacy. Headquartered in Seattle, Washington, the Network presently includes over 70 research sites on four continents.

FIND US ON:

@HelpEndHIV

THE ROCHESTER VICTORY ALLIANCE

AN HIV VACCINE IN OUR LIFETIME

rochestervictoryalliance.org
(585) 756-2329

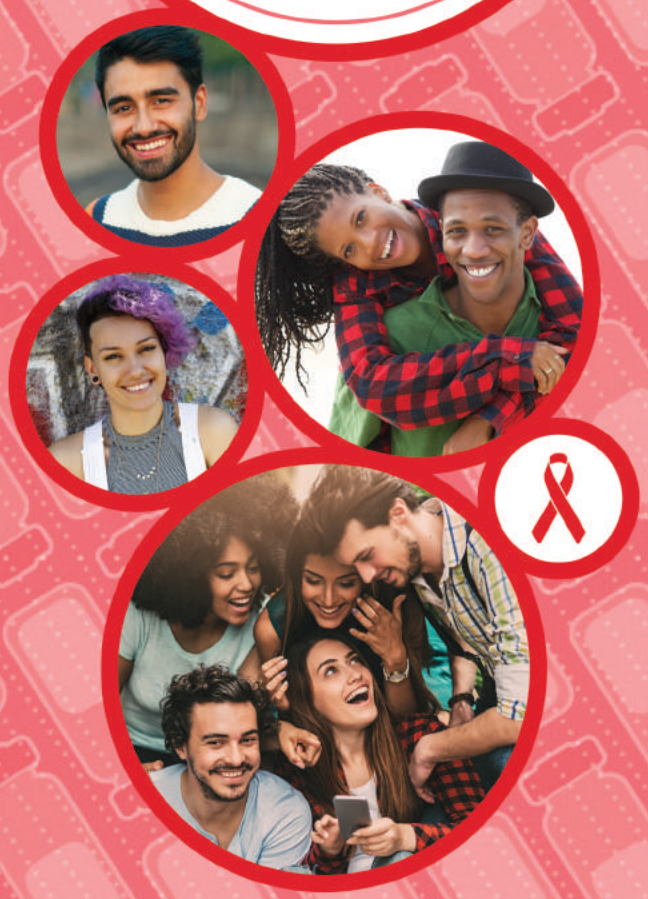
HIV VACCINE TRIALS NETWORK

The HVTN is supported through a cooperative agreement with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. The photos used in this brochure are of models being used for illustrative purposes only.

HVTN_General_Information_Brochure_V1.2022_ENG

The Best Long-term Hope for Ending AIDS

A GLOBAL EFFORT,
A GLOBAL HOPE,
A GLOBAL NETWORK.



WHAT ARE THE GOALS OF THE HVTN?

1. To find a safe and effective preventive vaccine against HIV, the human immunodeficiency virus that causes AIDS, for worldwide use.

2. To advance broadly neutralizing antibodies (bnAbs), a type of antibody that can recognize and block many types of HIV from entering cells, for HIV prevention and to advance development of HIV vaccines.

3. To find a safe and effective preventive vaccine against Tuberculosis (TB), a bacterium that most often affects the lungs, for worldwide use.

WHAT IS THE SCOPE OF OUR RESEARCH?

A vaccine stimulates the body's immune system to recognize and protect against or control an infection. The primary goal of HIV vaccine research is to find a vaccine that prevents HIV infection.

Where vaccines teach the body to make antibodies to fight HIV, bnAbs are lab-made antibodies that can be given directly to a person to prevent HIV. Knowing which ones are effective and how they work provides targets for vaccine development.

People living with HIV are often vulnerable to TB as well. Working with our partner networks, ACTG and IMPAACT, HVTN brings its vaccine expertise to the search for improved TB vaccines as well.

WHY LOOK FOR NEW PREVENTION TOOLS

Over 34 million people worldwide are living with HIV; over 1 million people die from HIV/AIDS each year. Globally, 2.5 million new infections occur each year.

About one quarter of the world's population has had TB; over 1.5 million people die from TB each year. Globally, an estimated 10 million cases occur each year.

Preventive vaccines are our best long-term hope for controlling the ongoing HIV/AIDS and TB pandemics.

WHAT IS THE PROCESS?

To create HIV vaccines and antibodies, scientists begin by testing them in labs and then in animals. Once a study vaccine or antibody is approved by the Food and Drug Administration for use in human studies, three major phases of studies are done.

PHASE I In Phase I, the study vaccine or antibody is tested in a small number of people who do not have HIV to determine safety and the body's immune responses to the vaccine.

PHASE II In Phase II, researchers test the study vaccine or antibody among hundreds of people who do not have HIV and continue to examine safety and immune responses. They can also determine the best dose and the best schedule for giving the products.

PHASE III Phase III trials are carried out among thousands of people who do not have HIV to determine whether the study vaccine or antibody prevents HIV infection. Safety continues to be assessed in a large number of people.

If the study vaccine or antibody works well at keeping people from acquiring HIV or controlling HIV infection if it occurs, it can be licensed for use.

WHAT ABOUT SAFETY?

It is impossible for anyone to get HIV by receiving a study vaccine or antibody, since they are not made from real HIV.

Several groups monitor safety. Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) at each research site and a central IRB used for multi-site studies are charged with ensuring the safety and welfare of the study participants. Protocol Safety Review Teams and Data and Safety Monitoring Boards also review data during the study and can recommend a study be stopped if it appears the participants are being placed at undue risk. Local and global Community Advisory Boards review research studies for acceptability to their communities from a cultural, ethical, and scientific perspective, and help to ensure that study materials will be understandable to participants.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Get informed and involved by contacting the site nearest you. See a full list on our website at www.hvtn.org.