On World AIDS Day, December 1st, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health, reflects on encouraging milestones from the past year in HIV/AIDS research that are advancing us toward controlling and ultimately ending the pandemic." />

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

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NIAID MEDIA AVAILABILITY
Landmark Discoveries Characterize NIH HIV/AIDS Research in 2010

WHAT:
On World AIDS Day, December 1st, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Ins milestones from the past year in HIV/AIDS research that are advancing us toward controlling and ultimately ending the panc

- **Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) proves effective at reducing the risk of HIV acquisition among men who ha** *New England Journal of Medicine* online, the NIAID-sponsored study known as iPrEx found that a daily dose of an c infection reduced the risk of HIV acquisition among men who have sex with men by 44 percent. Even higher rates o among study participants who adhered most closely to the daily drug regimen. NIAID and The Gates Foundation co continued research is needed to determine whether PrEP will be similarly effective at preventing HIV infection in oth

- **Vaginal microbicide prevents HIV infection:** For the first time in nearly 15 years of research, scientists discoverec level of protection against HIV infection. The CAPRISA 004 study, conducted by the Centre for the AIDS Programme found that the use of a microbicide gel containing a 1 percent concentration of the antiretroviral drug tenofovir result compared with a placebo gel. NIAID was among the organizations that provided substantial support and resources t CAPRISA. Ongoing and future clinical trials will build on these study results with the goal of bringing a safe and effe

- **Antibody discoveries propel HIV vaccine research:** In the past year, researchers have discovered at least eight a strains from infecting human cells in the laboratory. For instance, a team led by NIAID scientists discovered two hun percent of known global HIV strains from infecting human cells, and demonstrated how one of these disease-fighting structure of the new antibodies and where they bind to the virus is helping equip scientists with the tools to design a make some of the antibodies as protection against HIV infection.

- **New hope for people co-infected with HIV and tuberculosis (TB):** The Cambodia-based study known as CAMEL untreated, HIV-infected adults with very weak immune systems and newly diagnosed TB can be prolonged by startir beginning TB treatment, rather than waiting eight weeks, as had been standard. This finding is valuable because be immunocompromised individuals paradoxically can worsen the symptoms of co-infections such as TB, yet waiting to death. TB accounted for nearly a quarter of the 2 million HIV-related deaths worldwide in 2008. NIAID and the Frenc Viral Hepatitis co-funded the CAMELIA study.

WHO:
Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., NIAID director; Carl Dieffenbach, Ph.D., director of the NIAID Division of AIDS; and Gary J. Nabel, Research Center, are available for comment.

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NIAID conducts and supports research—at NIH, throughout the United States, and worldwide—to study the causes of infect develop better means of preventing, diagnosing and treating these illnesses. News releases, fact sheets and other NIAID-re website.

About the National Institutes of Health (NIH): NIH, the nation's medical research agency, includes 27 Institutes and Cente of Health and Human Services. NIH is the primary federal agency conducting and supporting basic, clinical, and translationa causes, treatments, and cures for both common and rare diseases. For more information about NIH and its programs, visit

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