STDs Amplify the Transmission of HIV: Where do we go from here?
by Myron S. Cohen, M.D.

Since the time HIV was discovered as the cause of AIDS, we have known that a wide variety of STDs amplify transmission of the virus. The biological forces that create such risk are increasingly well understood. The greatest challenge has been to design strategies that link detection and treatment of STDs to reduced transmission of HIV.

Myron S. Cohen, MD is an infectious disease specialist widely known for his work on transmission and prevention of transmission of HIV. Dr. Cohen helped to develop laboratory methods to measure HIV in genital secretions, as well as methods to determine the best antiviral agents to reduce replication of HIV in these compartments. Dr. Cohen is the architect and Principal Investigator of the multinational HPTN 052 trial, which demonstrated that antiretroviral treatment of people with HIV infection prevents the sexual transmission of the virus; this work was recognized by Science Magazine as the “Breakthrough of the Year” in 2011. Dr. Cohen has received the Distinguished Career Award for lifetime achievement in STD/HIV research from the American Sexually Transmitted Diseases Association and the Smadel Award from the Infectious Disease Society of America. Dr. Cohen received the O. Max Gardner from the University of North Carolina System, and the Award for Science from the State of North Carolina, the highest honor in the state. Dr. Cohen is a member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation, the American Association of Physicians and the Institute of Medicine. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Microbiology and the Infectious Disease Society of America.

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FUTURE DATES

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