

Hypothesis

Examining the causes of AIDS

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Abstract

Review of the medical literature on the causes and the pathogenesis of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) revealed the following facts: (1) AIDS in drug users and homosexuals in the USA and Europe is actually caused by the heavy ancillary use of glucocorticoids and other immunosuppressive agents to medically treat the wide range of the chronic serious illnesses caused by drugs and medications and infections. (2) AIDS in hemophiliacs is related to the use of corticosteroids and other immunosuppressive agents to prevent the development of antibodies for factors VIII and IX and other clotting factors and to treat chronic illnesses. (3) AIDS in people receiving blood and/or tissue is related to the use of glucocorticoids to prevent reactions of transfusion and tissue rejection and other illnesses. (4) AIDS in infants and children is caused by their exposure to drugs and corticosteroids in utero and their exposure to corticosteroids after birth used to treat infectious and noninfectious illnesses. (5) AIDS in Africa is caused by malnutrition, release of endogenous cortisol, and by opportunistic diseases. (6) HIV is a harmless virus both in the *in vivo* and the *in vitro* settings and the HIV-hypothesis needs to be reevaluated. (7) The use of glucocorticoids, Zidovudine (AZT), and protease inhibitors to treat AIDS patients are contraindicated.

Keywords: AIDS, HIV, glucocorticoids, corticosteroids, immunosuppressive agents, Epivir, Zidovudine (AZT), Protease inhibitors, malnutrition, thymic atrophy, Tuberculosis, Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia (PCP), Kaposi Sarcoma, drug users, hemophiliacs, homosexual men, children with AIDS, viral load
