

# Does AIDS Kill?

## AIDS

Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome; this is diagnosed once you drop below A CD4 count of fewer than 200 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>, microliters

## HIV

Human immunodeficiency virus is a retrovirus that causes the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, AIDS, a condition in humans which causes progressive failure of the immune system allowing life-threatening opportunistic infections and diseases to thrive.

## HIV CAN BE TRANSMITTED THROUGH...



**Sexual  
Contact**



**Pregnancy, Childbirth  
& Breast Feeding**

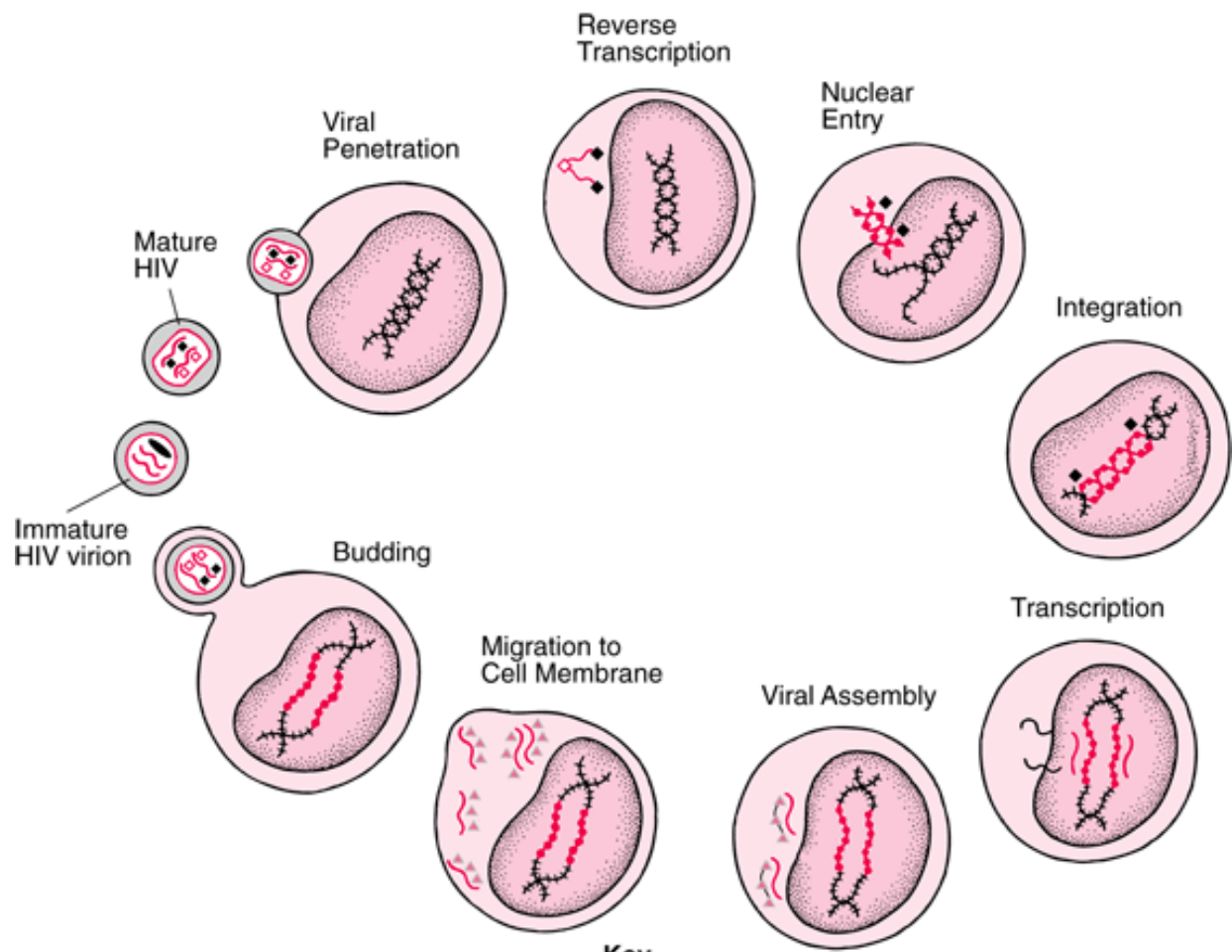


**Injection  
Drug Use**



**Occupational  
Exposure**

HIV is associated with the immune system, maturing in the dendritic cells, antigen processing cells, then are released to go find the t-cells, first cells to attack a pathogen. HIV does not affect any other cells, so no, HIV does not kill but it allows for other pathogens the opportunity.



**Key**

~~~ = Viral RNA   
 ~~~~ = Proviral DNA   
 ~~~~ = Host cell DNA   
 ◊ = Reverse transcriptase  
 ◆ = Integrase   
 ◀ = Protease   
 ▲ = HIV structural proteins

Work Cited

[aids.gov](http://aids.gov)