There's a light at the end of the tunnel

MONTREAL - Resear- chimps also were able to fight fection occurs." chers said they are impressed with early results of Dr. off another attempt to reinfect them with the virus.

His co-researcher, Clarence
infect them with the virus.

Gibbs speculated that the Jonas Salk's experimental that it is a long way from any then a high dose of active possible use in widescale treatment of the disease.

tional AIDS Conference that in the animal for the past four and not unexpected." his tests indicate that an in- months.

Another uninfected chim AIDS virus did become infected, but the level of AIDS

panzees previously infected Salk called the animal with HIV, which causes AIDS, studies "exciting," and said director of the American

lost all signs of the virus. The disease, it doesn't matter if in- Research, emphasized, "Peo- has effectively controlled continuous intravenous infu-The Afro-American

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post-exposure vaccine ap- rose an average of 100 over AIDS vaccine, but cautioned panzee given the vaccine and proach may be a good tool in AIDS-infected mothers.

Dr. Robert Gallo, co-Salk, the developer of the virus dropped over time, and discoverer of the AIDS virus, first polio vaccine, said Salk's team has been unable called Salk's research, "im-Thursday at the 5th Interna- to detect any signs of the virus portant, but it's incremental

fection by the human im- An unvaccinated chimp ex- scientific groups have producmunodeficiency virus, or posed to the same test show- ed "similar if not identical"

And Dr. Mervyn Silverman, were given his vaccine, they "as long as we can prevent Foundation for AIDS ple should not expect to see a . blinding eye infections in 29 vaccine tomorrow.'

Salk's experimental AIDS vaccine, which consists of June chemicals and radiation, was also given to 19 people already infected with the AIDS virus. and who had some symptoms but not fully developed cases of the disease.

The human tests found "no evidence of toxicity" either after the shots or in a one-year follow-up period, researchers from the San Diego-based Salk Institute said.

Although the tests were only to check the vaccine for safety, Dr. Alexandra Levine, all to drug therapy," said the the University of Southern Study's primary author, Phuc Deriversity of Southern Study directed those trials, said some evidence was found that indicates the vaccine may be changing the course of AIDS.

About two-thirds of the pa- tually destroys the retina, the tients given the post-exposure vaccine showed evidence of an immune response agains the AIDS virus in skin tests.

In addition, 10 of the 19 patients showed increased levels of the key immune cells called "T-4 helpers." Levine said that T-cell counts generally

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vaccinated patients the count

the year-long study. "All patients are well" and working full-time, Levine "It is clear there is a light

drop about 100 a year in AIDS- virus as the chimpanzees did. infected people, but in the But Salk said, "We have

at the end of the tunnel, and It is not known if the vac- we intend to move in that cine will prompt the AIDS- direction as quickly as possiinfected people to clear the ble," Salk said.

Gallo said several other scientific groups have produc- New drug therapy fights HIV, "need not longer be a death sentence." HIV is need not longer be a viral levels over the same results in monkeys, and he expects those reports to be blinding AIDS disease

drug that has recently begun week course of, initial AIDS patients, according to a French study published in the journal of the American

Academy of Ophthalmology. Foscarnet (trisodiumphosphonoformate) was used to treat a total of 31 patients who were suffering from CMV (cytomegalo-virus retinitis, the major cause of blindness among people with AIDS.

"The active retinal lesions disappeared in 19 patients, while 10 experienced partial improvement of the retinitis, and two failed to respond at ophthalmology, University of Paris, France.

CMV retinitis is a progressive disease that evendelicate layer of tissue in the back of the eye that transmits visual images to the brain. Twenty-nine study par-

Foscarnet, a new anti-viral ticipants received a threesion, administered in a

Foscarnet caused kidney toxicity in three study participants (two patients during the initial therapy and one patient during maintenance therapy) says Dr. LeHoang. but the problem was treated successfully after the patients topped Foscarnet therapy.

Six study participants then maintenance therapy for two hours a day, five days a week. Three of the patients relapsed with CMV retinitis within five weeks, while the remaining three have been free of the eye infection for a follow-up Within three weeks of discontinuing Foscarnet, CMV retinitis recurred in the 23 patients who did not receive maintenance therapy.

"Obviously, CMV retinitis is a relentless infection and will reappear if treatment is

(Continued on Page 9)

AIDSWALK'89

AIDSWALK '89 is a 3.1 mile walk starting from the steps of the Baltimore Museum of Art and ending on the Johns Hopkins University campus.

raise over \$250,000.00 to help the seven AIDS-service providers in the Baltimore metropolitan area.

Father's Day morning to join in the walk for all generations and help raise funds to stop

or more will receive a commemorative T-shirt.

There will be a continental breakfast for all walkers and a post-walk party featuring local talent such as Alana The walk is expected to Shorr and L.A. Ritz, Andrea Floyd, Brenda Alford, Opus , and more!!!!

To receive a pledge sheet for AIDSWALK '89, stop by your local library or any Erol's Video store.

For additional information AIDSWALK office at 685-1230 weekdays between 9:00 AM



Liz BoBo, Howard County Executive (center right) presents a proclamation to AIDSWALK'89 Chairperson, Sondra Stafford declaring June 18, 1989 as AIDSWALK '89 DAY in Howard County. On hand for the presentation were: (Left to right) Chris Longyear, Logistic Chairperson; Cris Camp, HERO; Frances L. Draper, President of the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper; and Dr. Jim Jordan from Columbia Free State Health



Mayor Kurt Schmoke presents AIDSWALK'89 Chairperson, Sondra Stafford with a proclamation declaring June 18, 1989 as AIDSWALK '89 DAY in Baltimore City.

What is AIDS — What is HIV?

Many people think that young people don't get AIDS. That's not true.

AIDS can affect anyone—of any age, of any ethnic or racial background—who engages in behavior with an infected person that can transmit HIV, the virus that causes

As of spring 1989, more than 18,000 people aged 20-29 have been diagnosed with AIDS.

Because a person can be infected with the virus that causes AIDS for as long as 10 or more years before the signs of AIDS appear, a significant number of these young people would have been infected when they were

Many teens engage in be- person with AIDS develops a haviors that increase their variety of life-threatening risk of becoming infected. illness.

Adults sometimes have no idea that the young people ual intercourse or experimen- munodeficiency virus, or ting with intravenous (IV) HIV. A virus is a small germ drugs. These activities can in- that can cause disease. crease their risk of infection with the virus that causes bloodstream, you may

All young people need to know about AIDS and the HIV Infection. specific action they can take to protect themselves and can infect others, even if no Surveys have found that: ing infected. Let's begin with the basics.

What is Aids?

AIDS stands for acquired immunodeficiency system fights off infections and certain other disease

AIDS is caused by the virus they know may be having sex- called the human im-

> If HIV enters your become infected with HIV. A special blood test can detect

A person who is infected symptoms are present. You cannot tell by looking atsomeone whether he or she i infected with HIV. An infected person can appear complete

Even when no symptoms are visible, however, anyone infected with HIV should be under a doctor's care.

People infected with HIV can develop many health problems. These can include ex-

ple, these illnesses may fected by receiving blood develop within a year or two. transfusions, especially dur- have no apparent symptoms Others may stay healthy for ing the period before 1985, of the condition, it's hard to be

as long as 10 or more years when careful screening and sure who is or is not infected before symptoms appear. laboratory testing of the blood with HIV. No one will develop AIDS supply began.

unless he or she has been infected with HIV. By preven- giving blood at a blood bank. your chances of encountering ting HIV infection, we can HIV can be spread through one who is infected, and prevent AIDS.

with HIV in two main ways: male to male.

 Having intercourse—vaginal, analor person's blood, semen, or HIV and other germs. perhaps oral—with an in- vaginal secretions. It is Sharing needles to inject IV fected person.

 Sharing drug needles or Also, women infected with

age for a boy is 15.5.

treme weight loss, severe HIV can pass the virus to rectum, and possibly the pneumonia, a form of cancer, their babies during pregnan- mouth. and damage to the nervous cy or during birth. In some cases they can also pass it on These illnesses signal the when breast-feeding.

onset of AIDS. In some peo- Some people have been in-

You can become infected to female, female to male, or HIV may be in an infected easy way to be infected with

Some Disturbing Facts

• the average age for a girl in the United States to have

sexual intercourse for the first time is 16. The average

• it is estimated that 2.5 million teens are infected with

sexually transmitted diseases (venereal diseases-VD)

each year. The virus that causes AIDS is sexually

used illegal drugs. Some of these drugs are injected. The

virus that causes AIDS is spread through the sharing of

So, the more sexual part-You cannot be infected by ners you have, the greater

quently transmitted.

fected person is one of the

. ways HIV has been most fre-

Since many infected people

sexual intercourse, from male becoming infected yourself. Sharing needles or syringes, even once, is a very

thought that it can enter the drugs is the most dangerous bloodstream through cuts or form of needle sharing.

syringes with an infected sores—some so small you Blood from an infected perdon't know they're there—on son can remain in or on a tissue in the vagina, penis, or needle or syringe and then be transferred directly into the bloodstream of the next person who uses it.

> Sharing other types of needles also may transmit HIV and other germs. These types of needles include those used to inject steroids and those used for tattooing or

If you plan to have your ears pierced or get a tattoo, make sure you go to a qualified technician using sterile equipment. Don't be shy about asking questions.

(Continued on Page 4)

IV drug needles or syringes.