

## **Accelerating research towards an HIV cure: Facilitating access to approved antiretroviral agents for use in animal model research of HIV cure**

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The International AIDS Society (IAS) Towards an HIV Cure initiative seeks to facilitate and accelerate scientific research, and to advocate for increased investment in research towards a drug-free remission of HIV infection.

The Towards an HIV Cure Global Scientific Strategy identified seven priority research areas in the pursuit of approaches that will allow HIV remission in the absence of antiretroviral therapy (ART). A key element in this research agenda is the use of combination ART to control virus replication in pre-clinical animal models of HIV cure. Prolonged virus suppression is necessary to facilitate the evaluation of strategies that could be used to clear or persistently control-HIV or SIV in these models. The lack of a simple process to allow access to approved antiretrovirals for research use is a major impediment to such studies and may delay the translation to evaluation in HIV-infected humans.

The IAS therefore calls for a common Material Transfer Agreement (MTA) to be developed to create a simplified process for the donation and use of approved antiretroviral agents for these pre-clinical studies.

We hereby call for the industry partners to make a concerted effort to agree on and finalize common language for a MTA, to simplify, facilitate and accelerate this research area towards an HIV cure.

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