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DISEASES

AIDS prevention program in India had mixed results

4 5 6 7 A large and costly AIDS prevention program that the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation pioneered in India eight years ago had mixed results, depending on the state, according to a preliminary analysis published on Monday in *The Lancet*.

The foundation spent \$258 million on the program between 2003 and 2008. It has since put in another \$80 million to continue the program.

The program pays for education campaigns, safe-sex counseling, syringes, condoms and treatment for other venereal diseases. The authors estimated that the program prevented 100,000 infections, at \$2,500 per infection prevented — far less expensive than the lifetime cost of treatment. DONALD G. MCNEIL JR.