

Headline	Immune upgrade gives 'HIV shielding'		
MediaTitle	Urban Health		
Date	29 May 2014	Color	Full Color
Section	News	Circulation	19,000
Page No	63	Readership	58,000
Language	English	ArticleSize	67 cm <sup>2</sup>
Journalist	N/A	AdValue	RM 713
Frequency	Monthly	PR Value	RM 2,139



## Immune upgrade gives 'HIV shielding'

A small study published in the New England Journal of Medicine revealed that doctors using gene therapy to upgrade the immune system of patients with HIV, helped shield them from the virus' onset. This raises the prospect of patients no longer needing to take daily medication to control their infection which would make it less of a financial burden. Researchers at the University of Pennsylvania extracted millions of cells from the HIV patients, grew them in the laboratory until there were billions, altered the DNA in the T-cells and infused about 10 billion of the cells back into the patients. Only 20% of the cells were successfully altered but after taking the patients off their medication for four weeks, the number of protected T-cells remained almost the same and were still present in the blood some months later.

~ BBC News, 6/3/2014