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Canadian 'giant' of HIV research drowns

GENEVA: Canadian scientist Mark Wainberg – described as a 'giant' of HIV science and who had recently been working on finding a cure for the condition – has died at the age of 71, UNAIDS said on Thursday.

The internationally renowned scientist, who was at the forefront of HIV research from the very beginning of the global

AIDS epidemic, drowned on Wednesday while swimming off Bal Harbour in Florida, Radio Canada said.

Wainberg and his colleagues identified one of the main anti-retroviral medicines used to treat HIV infection and also contributed to the understanding of HIV drug resistance. — AFP