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HIV infection linked to heart attack risk

WASHINGTON: Being HIV-positive raises a person's heart attack risk by about 50%.

The study looked at 82,459 US veterans, mostly men. It was published in *Archives of Internal Medicine*, a publication of the Journal of the American Medical Association.

It said that in three age groups, the average incidence of heart attack was consistently and significantly higher for people who are HIV-

positive, compared with uninfected veterans.

After adjusting for illness, smoking, alcohol consumption and risk factors such as high blood pressure and cholesterol, the HIV-positive subjects in the study had a 50% higher risk of heart-attack than uninfected people.

The research was led by Matthew Freiberg of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. — AFP