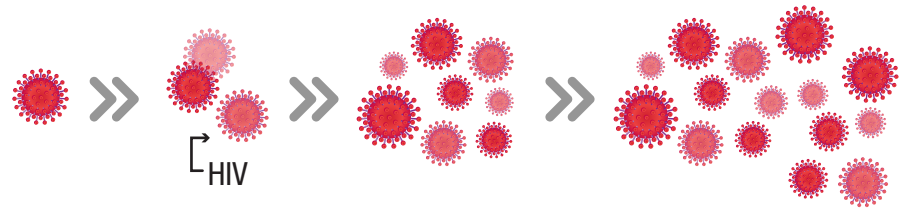
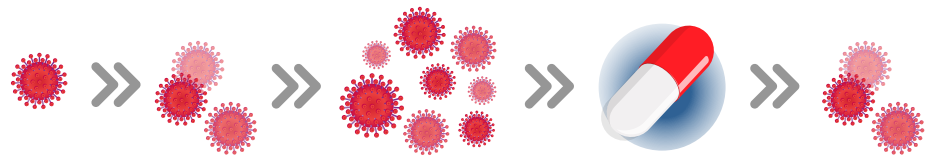


HIV Drug Resistance

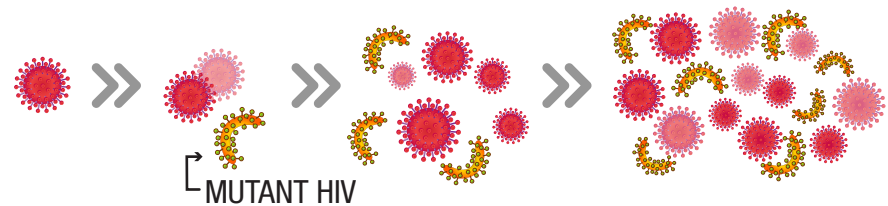
1 Once a person has HIV, the virus begins to multiply.



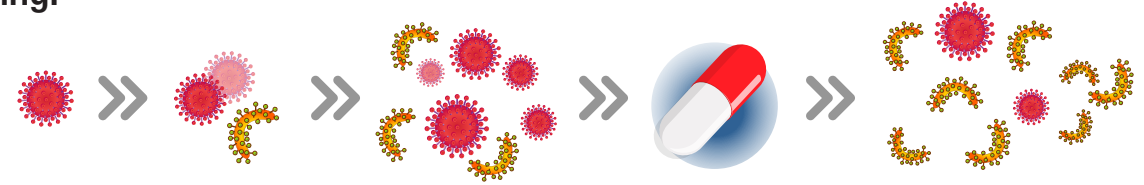
2 HIV medicines block HIV from multiplying. Taking HIV medicine daily reduces the amount of HIV in the body.



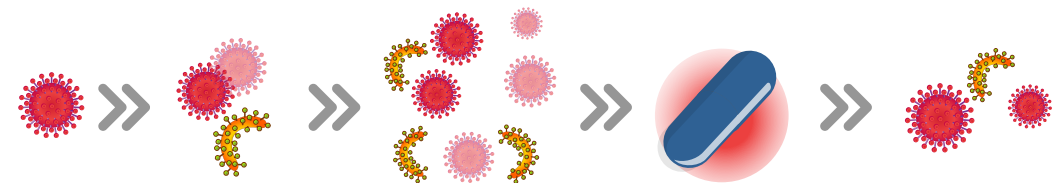
3 If a person stops taking their HIV medicines, the virus begins to multiply again. As HIV multiplies, the virus sometimes changes form (mutates).



4 Some HIV mutations can cause HIV drug resistance. Once drug resistance develops, one or more of the HIV medicines that previously controlled the person's HIV are no longer effective. In other words, the HIV medicine(s) can't stop the new mutant HIV from multiplying.



5 Once drug-resistant HIV develops, a person must change HIV medicines. Different HIV medicines are needed to block the drug-resistant HIV from multiplying.



Drug-resistant HIV can be transmitted from person to person or develop after inconsistent HIV medicine use.

6 Taking HIV medicines every day and exactly as prescribed helps prevent drug resistance. HIV medicines block HIV from multiplying. Having less HIV in the body reduces the chances that the virus will mutate and produce drug-resistant HIV.



**Prevent drug resistance.
Take your HIV medicines daily.**

For more information, visit HIVinfo.NIH.gov.