

# What would an HIV cure mean for me?

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## About me:

- Diagnosed with HIV 20 years ago
- 56 and menopausal
- My HIV– undetectable viral load, 3 tablets once daily
- Co-morbidities – CKD (7 year post-transplant); 4 morning tablets and 1 at night
- My current QoL is generally quite good

## What would cure mean for me: the pros..

- Could be a relief from daily pill taking and polypharmacy in the ageing population.
- Psychological impact on possible lifestyle change – no more daily medication, less clinic appointments etc.
- Could help with stock outs.
- Might help combat stigma?



## What would cure mean for me – the cons:



- Current treatment is effective and easy to take.
- Where the cure becomes available or not, it is still not going to be available, accessible or affordable to those who need it.
- Stigma and discriminatory attitudes will always be there.
- The promise of a cure gives false hopes and might affect adherence to those already on treatment.
- You could still get re-infected!
- Is cure roll out likely to happen in our lifetime?

Clearly..



- U=U is very liberating; I am happy taking my daily pills knowing I will not pass on the virus
- Focus on ensuring that everyone who needs ARVs globally have access to them.
- Long acting agents of at least 6 months are more appealing than cure.

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