

easygoing news

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Blood test finds cancer sooner


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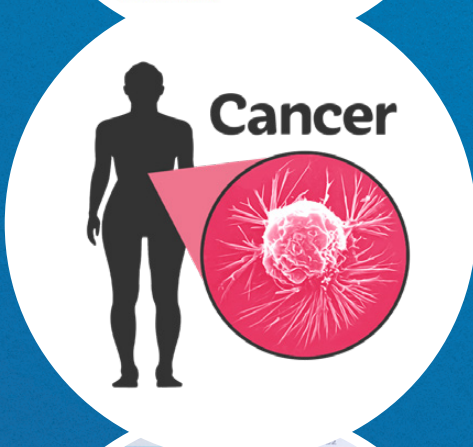
New blood test may find cancer quicker



Doctors are trying out a blood test that can find out if a person has **cancer** even if they do not feel unwell.



Cancer is a very dangerous disease which kills 10 million people around the world each year. The longer a person has cancer, the harder it is for doctors to make them better.



Cancer can start in many different places in the body. It does not always make people feel unwell until it has caused a lot of damage inside the body, so finding it early is important.



The NHS is trying out the Galleri blood test to look for cancer. The test is looking for things the cancer is putting into blood.



At the moment, the test can find cancer in 2 out of every 3 patients who have cancer without really noticeable symptoms.



When the test does find something, it is very good at finding out where the cancer is in the body.



A blood test is a much cheaper than other kinds of tests for cancer. It is also quicker and easier for patients.



The NHS is using the test on 1000s of people to see if it can find cancer. In 2024, the NHS will decide if it should test more people.

Alzheimer's disease medicine hope



Doctors are getting closer to finding a medicine to help people with **Alzheimer's disease**.



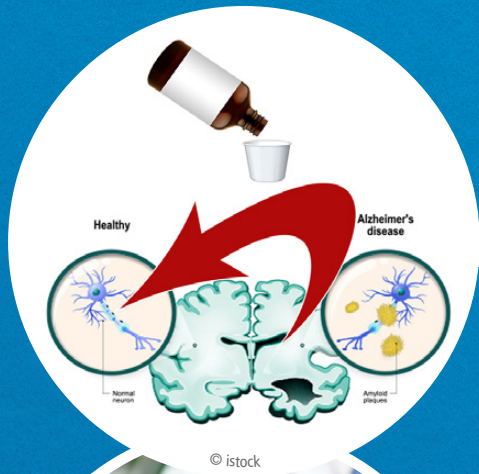
Alzheimer's disease is where people forget more and more things until they cannot do things by themselves, even speak or move. It normally happens to people over 65 years old.



At the moment there is no medicine to cure Alzheimer's disease. For a long time doctors did not know why it happened.



By looking at the brains of people with Alzheimer's disease, doctors can see that parts of their brain are covered with a thing called **beta-amyloid**.



The doctors want to find a medicine to remove the beta-amyloid. They think that if they can do that, then people with Alzheimer's disease will remember things for longer.



Doctors are testing 2 medicines right now. One is called donanemab and the other is called lecanemab. Both work in the same way by removing beta-amyloid.



The tests showed the medicine slowed down the damage caused by Alzheimer's by around 33%, helping people live their lives more normally for longer.



Making medicines happens very slowly. Doctors have to do a lot of tests to make sure that they work, and that they are safe to use. But this new medicine has given people hope that a cure for Alzheimer's may one day be found.

New Barbie doll with Down syndrome



Mattel is the company who makes Barbie dolls. They have made a new Barbie doll with Down syndrome.



Down syndrome is a learning disability people are born with.



The doll has a special necklace to show that she has Down syndrome.



Mattel hope that their doll will be played with by children with Down syndrome, who might want a doll that looks like them.



They also think that other children will be more accepting of others if they see a lot of different dolls.



British model Ellie Goldstein is advertising the doll. Ellie Goldstein has Down syndrome.



Mattel have made other Barbie dolls to represent different kinds of people in the last few years. These include dolls in wheelchairs, dolls with missing arms and legs, dolls without hair and dolls with hearing aids and skin conditions.



They also cast 3 actors with disabilities in the Barbie film which came out in July.

Children survive plane crash



On 9th of June, 4 children were rescued after being lost for 40 days in the Amazon rainforest after a small plane they were flying in crashed.



The children were from the **Indigenous** Huitoto community and aged 13, 9, 4 and 1 years old. Indigenous is used to describe communities who have lived in a place long before others moved there.



The children's mother and 2 **pilots** were killed when the plane crashed. Pilots are the people who fly the plane.



The children did not have much food or water. The oldest child had to take care of her brothers and sisters.



They stayed alive by eating flour that they found in the crashed plane, and fruit and seeds found in the jungle.



The children moved away from the crashed plane further into the rainforest, which made them harder to find.



A rescue team of 100s of soldiers, volunteers from Columbia's Indigenous communities, as well as helicopters and 10 dogs helped find the children.



They were taken to hospital to be looked after as they were very weak from not eating and drinking enough for such a long time. People are calling it a 'miracle' that they were found alive.

World's oldest dog turns 31



A dog who lives in Portugal has become the world's oldest dog at 31 years old. His name is Bobi.



A dog like Bobi would usually only live to 14 years old.



Bobi spends most of his time resting because he is very old, but he had a big party to celebrate his birthday.



People from all over the world came to Bobi's party. There were people there who came from all over Europe, America and Japan.

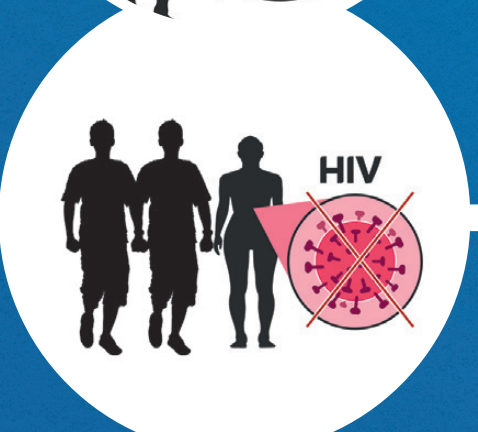
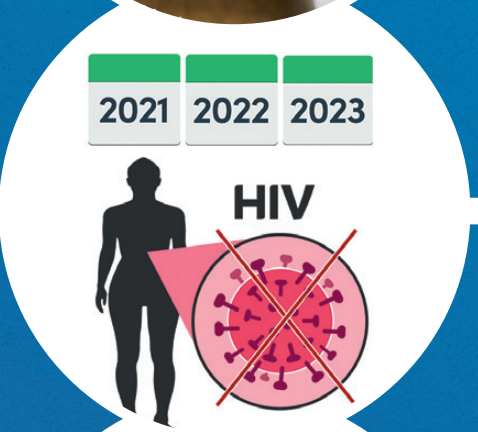
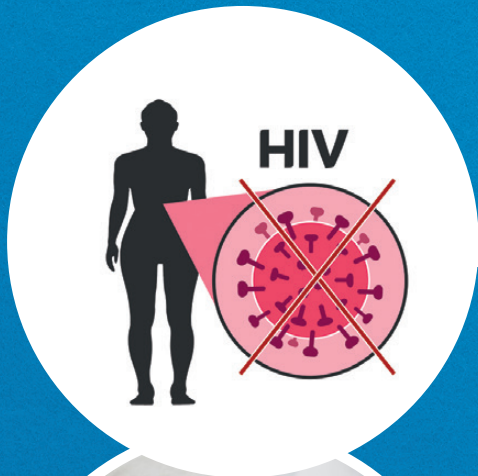
1st ever woman cured of HIV

A woman in America has been cured of **HIV** by being given **stem cells**. HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) is a virus that attacks your body and stops you from fighting infections or diseases. This can then lead to AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). People can die from AIDS.

Stem cells are special because they can be become any type of cell. These stem cells were extra special because they were given to the woman by another person whose cells stop HIV from getting into the body.

The stem cell treatment is not a definite cure because it hasn't been long enough to tell yet. But so far, the woman has been HIV-free for over 2.5 years.

She is now the 3rd person to be cured of HIV using stem cells.



Disney helps breaks disability barrier



15-year-old Noah Matthews Matofsky has become the first actor with Down syndrome to get a lead role in a Disney movie.



He plays a character called Slightly in the film Peter Pan and Wendy, which stars a famous actor called Jude Law as Peter Pan.



This version of the Peter Pan story is also the 1st to include 'Lost Girls' as well as 'Lost Boys', and the 1st to give the role of the famous fairy Tinkerbell to a black actress.



Many famous stories and films are now being re-made to include different kinds of people.

Iceland bans conversion therapy



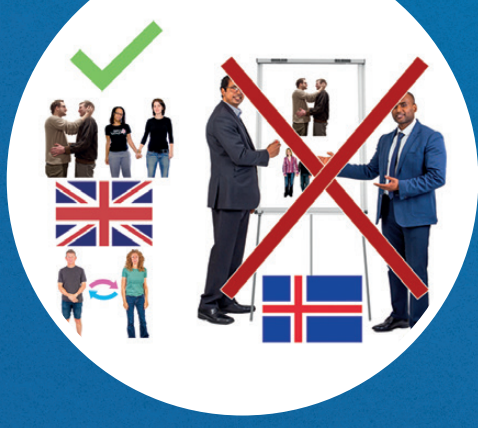
Some men are attracted to men, and some women are attracted to women. Some people are told they are male or female when they are born, but do not feel this is true and so change from male to female, or female to male when they get older.



Some people think this is wrong and something people can be 'cured' of using something called **conversion therapy**.



Lots of people want conversion therapy to be banned. They say it is wrong to make people feel like who they are is something wrong with them that needs to be fixed.



The Government in Iceland have now agreed to make conversion therapy against the law. 14 other countries have already banned it, but it is still legal in the UK in 2023.

Spread the positivity!



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