

HUMAN HEALTH AND DISEASE

AIDS

AIDS (ACQUIRED IMMUNO DEFICIENCY SYNDROME)

This means deficiency of immune system. acquired during the lifetime of an individual indicating that it is not a congenital disease. 'Syndrome' means a group of symptoms.

AIDS was first reported in 1981 and in the last twenty-five years or so, it has spread all over the world killing more than 25 million persons.

- AIDS is a viral disease, caused by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), a member of group of viruses called retro virus, which have an envelope enclosing the RNA genome.
- Characterised by decrease in number of helper T-cells.
- Also called slim disease
- First detected in homosexual males in USA (1981) at Disease control centre Atlanta.
- In India first AIDS case was reported in 1986 from chennai.
- Virus was named variously

HCLV-III = Human cell Leukemia Virus-III

HTLV-III = Human T-lymphotrophic Virus-III

LAV = Lymphadenopathy associated virus

HIV-I = Most common in India (90-120 nm) and widely distributed throughout the world.

HIV-II = Most common in West Africa (90-120 nm)

AIDS Causes and Prevention

Let us now understand the causes of AIDS disease.

AIDS is brought about by HIV. An individual can't get AIDS if they haven't contracted HIV. Healthy people have a CD4 count of 500 to 1,500 for each cubic millimetre. Without treatment, HIV keeps on

increasing and crushing CD4 cells. If an individual's CD4 count falls under 200, they have AIDS. Additionally, on the off chance that somebody with HIV builds up a shrewd infection related to HIV, they can at present be determined to have AIDS, regardless of whether their CD4 count is over 200.