



HIV/AIDS QUIZ ANSWERS

1. True or False: HIV infections are found in every country of the world.

True. HIV infections are found throughout the world, and developing countries are particularly vulnerable to the devastation caused by HIV and AIDS. In poverty-stricken countries, many people do not understand the risk of HIV or how to prevent it. Once infected, they do not have the same access to treatment as do those suffering from the disease in the developing world.

Source: The Skeptic's Guide to the Global AIDS Crisis by Dale Hanson Bourke (Colorado Springs, Colo.: Authentic Books, 2006), p. 9

2. How many total deaths worldwide have been attributed to AIDS since statistics on the disease were first recorded?

- a. 5 million
- b. 10 million
- c. 15 million
- d. 23 million

D. 23 million. An estimated 23 million people died of AIDS between 1990 and 2007. In 2007 alone, more than 2 million people died from AIDS-related causes.

Source: 2008 Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic, Executive Summary, p. 18, www.UNAIDS.org/en/KnowledgeCentre/Default.asp

3. What percentage of worldwide deaths due to AIDS occurred in sub-Saharan Africa in 2007?

- a. 32%
- b. 50%
- c. 72%
- d. 95%

C. 72%. Of the more than 2 million deaths worldwide in 2007 caused by AIDS, 72 percent of those occurred in sub-Saharan Africa. That statistic shows the devastating toll AIDS is taking on the continent of Africa.

Source: 2008 Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic, Executive Summary, pp. 5, 18, www.UNAIDS.org/en/KnowledgeCentre/Default.asp

4. True or False: A person with AIDS always has HIV.

True. HIV is the virus that causes AIDS. However, a person may have HIV for many years without developing AIDS. An HIV-positive person is considered to have AIDS only when his or her white blood cell (CD4) count drops below the 200-350 range. In fact, until then, a person with HIV may not show symptoms of the infection. However, an HIV-infected person is still able to transmit the disease to others and may develop AIDS at any time.

Source: www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/basic/index.htm, November 2008

5. True or False: Antiretroviral therapy (ART) will cure an HIV-positive person.

False. ART is not a cure for HIV; rather ART prevents the virus from replicating in the body. By stopping HIV from making copies of itself, less virus occurs in the body, which in turn allows the immune system (T cells) to rebuild itself. A stronger immune system can then defend the body and keep a person fairly healthy.

Source: www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/treatment/index.htm, November 2008

6. Which of the following statements is true?

- a. Every two minutes, a child under 15 dies of an AIDS-related illness.
- b. Every minute, 14 seconds, a child is orphaned by AIDS.
- c. Every minute, another child becomes HIV-positive.
- d. All of the above.

D. All of the above. Although the AIDS pandemic is denying millions of children their childhood, governments and organizations fighting the spread of HIV often overlook these children. Compassion's AIDS Initiative focuses specifically on the needs of children in poverty and works through local churches to fight the AIDS pandemic.

Sources: UNICEF's *State of the World's Children 2008*, pp. 129, www.unicef.org/publications/index_42623.html; *2008 Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic, Executive Summary*, pp. 9, www.UNAIDS.org/en/KnowledgeCentre/Default.asp

7. How many new HIV infections occur in children (under 15) worldwide each day?

- a. 600
- b. 1,000
- c. 2,000
- d. 4,200

B. 1,000. During 2007, an average of 1,000 children worldwide became infected each day with HIV, the vast majority of them newborns. Many people living in poverty are never tested and are unaware of their HIV-positive status, thus increasing the rate of transmission. An important focus of Compassion's AIDS Initiative is the prevention of mother-to-child transmission.

Source: *2008 Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic, Executive Summary*, pg. 8, www.UNAIDS.org/en/KnowledgeCentre/Default.asp

8. True or False: If a child born to an HIV-positive mother is not infected at birth, the child is then safe from getting the infection from the mother.

False. HIV can be passed from a mother to her child in three ways: during pregnancy, during childbirth, or through the breast milk. Even though children may not be infected when they are born, they can still be infected later through their mother's breast milk. Simple drug interventions, however, can prevent mother-to-child transmission, which can greatly reduce the overall rate of HIV transmission.

Source: The Skeptic's Guide to the Global AIDS Crisis by Dale Hanson Bourke (Colorado Springs, Colo.: Authentic Books, 2006), p. 15

9. What percentage of the world's HIV-infected children live in sub-Saharan Africa?

- a. 35%
- b. 50%
- c. 69%
- d. 90%

D. 90%. Of the estimated 2 million HIV-infected children (under 15) worldwide, almost 90 percent of them live in sub-Saharan Africa. That percentage is overwhelming! To effectively fight this pandemic, we must reach the children in this AIDS-ravaged region. Sub-Saharan Africa is the most HIV-infected region of the world, home to 22.1 million HIV-positive people, 67 percent of the worldwide HIV-positive population.

Source: 2008 Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic, Executive Summary, pp. 4, 5, 9, www.UNAIDS.org/en/KnowledgeCentre/Default.asp

10. What percentage of children (under 15 years) in developing countries who need antiretroviral therapy (ART) have access to it?

- a. 9%
- b. 20%
- c. 42%
- d. 60%

B. 20%. The World Health Organization estimates that 115,000 children under age 15 in developing countries are currently receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART), out of an estimated 660,000 in need. Compassion's AIDS Initiative is working to change this statistic. Currently, 100 percent of the Compassion-assisted children known to be eligible for ART are receiving it.

Sources: Towards Universal Access, Progress Report, April 2007, p. 4, www.WHO.org; www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/84/2/145.pdf, November 2008