



128. Aids

W: Today I would like to talk about a global scourge which is affecting millions of people, which is the HIV virus also called AIDS. Who knows when we first heard of this disease?

Sarah: I think the first cases of AIDS were identified in 1981. Since then it has killed more than twenty five million people.

W: Thank you Sarah. Did you know that the number of people living with HIV could decrease from 35 to 34.6 million by 2015?

Sarah: No! How come?

W: Thanks to the progress of anti-retroviral drugs and triple therapy, the number of deaths from HIV has diminished in the developed countries.

Sarah: the number of deaths has, but the number of infected people has increased, especially in Africa, Asia and India. HIV thrives in poor countries, where access to information and education is limited.

W: This is true. Although AIDS affects everyone, countries in the developing world have been the worst hit by the pandemic. In India, about two million children have lost one or both parents to AIDS.

Preventing mother to child transmission of HIV during pregnancy and delivery, or through breastfeeding, is becoming a priority in Africa.

Sarah: I've read that in Asia and Eastern Europe, needle sharing among drug users is the main driver of the virus, and in the eighties, AIDS was considered to be mainly affecting gay men in wealthy countries. Thirty five years later, it mainly affects the poor.

W: For sure. If the virus continues unchecked in poor countries, the GNP of many countries will decline. Anyway, we have seen over time that prevention and awareness is better than cure.



GLOSSARY:

AIDS: le sida	The pandemic : la pandémie
To affect: affecter, toucher	Pregnancy : la grossesse
To identify: identifier	Delivery : l'accouchement
To kill: tuer	A priority: une priorité
To decrease: diminuer, décroître	Eastern Europe: l'Europe de l'Est
To diminish: diminuer	Needle: une seringue, une aiguille
To infect: infecter	Drug users: les toxicomanes
To increase: augmenter, croître	The main driver: le vecteur principal
To thrive: prospérer, proliférer	The eighties: les années 80
To hit/hit/hit: frapper	Gay men: les hommes homosexuels
To lose/lost/lost: perdre	Wealthy countries: les pays riches
To prevent: empêcher	The poor: les pauvres
To breastfeed: allaiter	The GNP: le PNB
To share: partager	Prevention: la prévention
To decline: chuter, décliner	Awareness: la sensibilisation
A global scourge: un fléau mondial	Cure: le traitement, guérir
A disease : une maladie	Unchecked: incontrôlé, effréné
The first cases : les premiers cas	
anti-retroviral drugs: des médicaments anti-rétroviraux	
Triple therapy : la trithérapie	
Deaths : morts, décès	
Poor countries : les pays pauvres	
The developing world : les pays en développement	