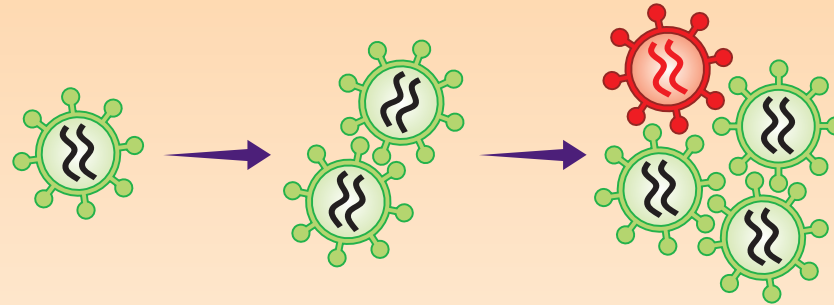


What is HIV drug resistance?

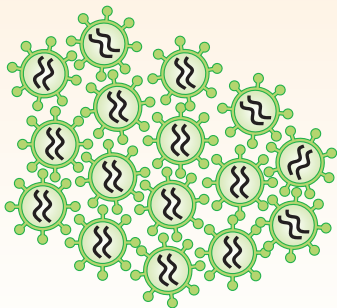


HIV is constantly multiplying or making copies of itself.

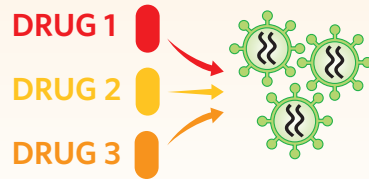
When HIV multiplies it often makes a mistake copying its genetic material.

Some of these mistakes, called mutations, can make HIV resistant to a particular drug.

no resistance



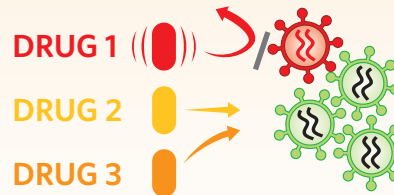
HIV (untreated)



Virus is suppressed under treatment

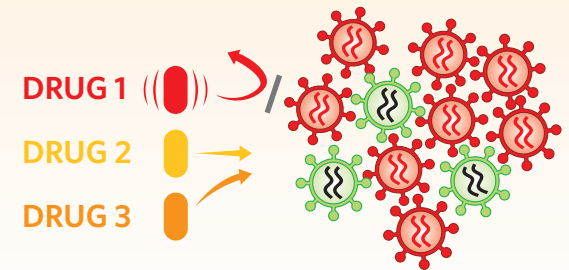
A combination of at least three antiretroviral (ARV) drugs is needed to suppress HIV, an approach called antiretroviral therapy (ART).

resistance



Drug resistant HIV

Mistakes made when copying its genetic material can sometimes make HIV resistant to one or more ARV.



Resistant virus keeps multiplying

HIV cannot be suppressed by continuing the ineffective drug; in fact, continuing the drug allows resistant virus to keep multiplying and dominate other virus.

