

## Further information

[www.aids.ch](http://www.aids.ch)

Everything you need to know about living with HIV and where to find advice centres.

[www.drgay.ch](http://www.drgay.ch)

Information and advice for men who have sex with men.

This leaflet was produced by the Swiss AIDS Federation in conjunction with **NAM Aidsmap UK**. We recommend that you discuss the information contained in this leaflet with a health care professional.

HIV+

# This is how HIV therapy works



Medications fight HIV in different ways. The aim of HIV therapy is to reduce the amount of virus to the lowest possible level.

**HIV therapy helps you stay healthy by reducing the amount of virus in your body.**

**The aim of the treatment is to combat the virus in such a way that it can no longer be detected.**

HIV infects the body's cells in several steps. Various medications start at different points in this process. This prevents the body from being able to produce new HI viruses and the amount of virus in the body is reduced.



1

The virus attacks the immune system cell.



2

Entry inhibitors prevent the virus from entering the cell. This prevents HIV from merging with the cell.



3

NRTI, NNRTI and integrase inhibitors prevent the virus from altering any genetic information (DNA). This stops the cell from being reprogrammed.



4

Protease inhibitors prevent infected cells from multiplying.