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Short Report

Absence of relationship between human immunodeficiency virus 1 and sleeping sickness

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The possible role of certain blood-sucking insects in the transmission of human immunodeficiency virus 1 (HIV1) in endemic regions has been discussed by various authors (ZUCKERMAN, 1986; BECKER *et al.*, 1986). Since immunosuppression is associated with

teur) and the positive results confirmed by Western blot (WB) (LAV-Blot, Diagnostic Pasteur). The results are shown in the Table.

Table—Results of serological tests for anti-HIV1 antibodies in trypanosomiasis patients and controls

	n	ELISA(+)	%	WB(+)	%
Trypanosomias patients	138	6	4.3	4	2.9
Controls	310	20	6.5	7	2.3

The 11 anti-HIV1 positive subjects were healthy. The prevalence rates of WB-confirmed anti-HIV1 are comparable in both groups. These results do not support the hypothesis that tsetse flies may be a reservoir for the virus or vectors in zones which are