

POSITIVELY FALSE

UPDATE 6.6.97

1. Overview - Nugget points
2. Recent Developments
3. HIV test anomalies worldwide

OVERVIEW - NUGGET POINTS

- * To be HIV positive does not mean to be HIV infected
- * 40 HIV tests per 100,000 tests in the low risk community test false positive.
- * The HIV test is not specific (cannot consistently identify what it is looking for) and non reproducible (cannot be consistently repeated with the same result). This is borne out in the world literature and confirmed by our Dispatches tests.
- * The results of an HIV test are given as "Yes" and "No" when in actual fact what they are demonstrating is "high" and "Low". In other words they are simply identifying the *amount* of antibody in the blood, to certain proteins said to be specific to HIV.
- * The criteria for deciding whether or not an individual is positive or negative vary from one country to another and one set of rules to another. In other words one blood sample can *test* positive in Africa and then negative if flown to Australia. Or one blood sample can test negative in the UK (where Western blot is no longer used as a confirmatory test) and positive in Washington where the more sensitive Western blot test is used.
- * The UK is the only country in the world that has dropped the use of Western blot as a confirmatory test because it is so misleading. e.g. When blood samples from healthy blood donors were tested by Western blot, 64% were found to be HIV "false" positive.