# WHEN IT COMES TO AIDS, TOO MANY STAY SILENT. IT'S TIME TO TALK CURE

#### A PERSONAL INTRODUCTION

## CURE A DS

RFTCA.org/donate + kambiz.shekdar@RFTCA.org



#### Dear Friend,

Ten years ago, the world saw the first breakthrough in curing AIDS, when stem cells were used to cure a man of the virus. This success points to other promising developments that could be within our reach. However, over the last decade, a second person has yet to be cured, and significant challenges and work remain to create a universal cure. At Research Foundation to Cure AIDS (RFTCA), we are using the latest stem cell research to activate a cutting-edge cellular engineering cure method.

To date, efforts to address AIDS are largely focused on prevention and treatment. While these initiatives are commendable, we must also strive to make room for cutting-edge cell therapy technologies.

Much more can and must be done. Cell therapy technology holds great promise in curing AIDS, but this innovative approach now needs champions. We believe there are people out there who would support the research and development for a universal cure—if only they knew it could be possible. Many people have never heard of the one and only man cured of AIDS, and more still don't realize that it is a roadmap to create a universal cure. Stigma also keeps many would-be supporters at bay. While this is a very sensitive and personal issue, it is always those who care most about a disease who are needed as champions to drive the leading edge of medical innovation and philanthropy forward.

Here's where you come in: If you or anyone you know would like to contribute to curing AIDS, we would be grateful to discuss your interest and have your support to raise awareness and funding. Please share this Personal Introduction with anyone you know who may want to join in our mission.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Kambiz Shekdar, PhD

President and Founder of RFTCA

Shekdar



# A CURE FOR AIDS IS FINALLY WITHIN REACH—WE NEED YOU TO MAKE IT HAPPEN

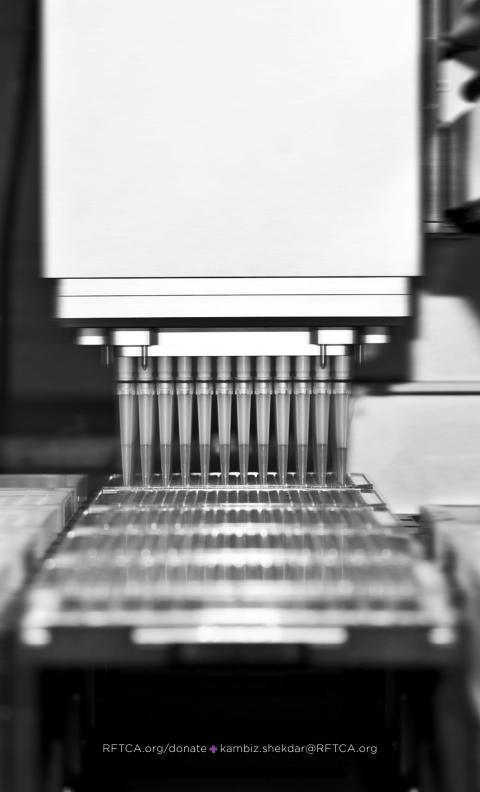
When you think of AIDS, you probably think of drug cocktails and prevention efforts. You may think that the virus is under control. Many people do. But the truth is, AIDS kills millions of people each year. And think of the huge ripple effect; millions with the virus needlessly suffer, along with their loved ones, family, and society.

There are many advocacy groups that focus on prevention, education, and treatment. Research Foundation to Cure AIDS **(RFTCA)** is designed to complement those efforts with a rigorous scientific study on a brand new concept: **cure.** 

Stem cell biology has come a long way. With genome editing, modification of DNA, and personalized medicine, stem cell therapy holds a power to treat and cure disease in ways never before seen. Cellular biologist Kambiz Shekdar, the founder and president of RFTCA, invented a biotechnology that manipulates stem cells and could create curative cells—thus curing AIDS.

This cure method was formed partly from the famous case of "the Berlin patient," the first and only man cured of AIDS. He was cured in 2007 with a stem cell transplant and remains free of the virus to this day. With innovative stem cell therapies and using this case as a blueprint, we forge forward to create a cost-effective and practical way to bring a cure to everyone. We'll do it with the best minds, equipment, and science.

We've reached that time in history where it's possible to fundamentally change how we think about AIDS, from treating it—to curing it.



#### THE SCIENCE BEHIND THE CURE

Kambiz invented the biotechnology that manipulates cells, called Chromovert® technology, originally for purposes unassociated with AIDS. But now he sees it can be used to create curative cells that are HIV-resistant.

Although it is not a commonly known fact, there are millions of people who are naturally resistant to HIV. Their cells simply reject the virus. A physician put this knowledge to practice in April 2007 in the case of Timothy Ray Brown, widely known as "the Berlin patient." Brown's physician transplanted HIV-resistant cells into his immune system. These cells created a new, HIV-resistant immune system in his body—curing him of AIDS.

This case points us to the type of stem cells that are curative. Now, we need a cell therapy method that can turn certain cells in the body into ones that reject the virus. Several cellular engineering technologies may play a role in curing AIDS, and we support all initiatives with charitable components. The biotechnology invented by Kambiz has surpassed all other technologies in a diverse range of other applications and also holds strong promise in the endeavor to find a cure for AIDS.

I had no idea the biotechnology I invented many years ago could someday be used to cure AIDS. Now that we know its capabilities, we won't stop until we reach the cure.



-Kambiz Shekdar, President and Founder of the RFTCA



#### HERE'S HOW A CURE COULD WORK

1

The doctor draws a patient's blood.

2

Stem cells are isolated and sent to a biotechnology center.

3

Scientists use cellular engineering technologies to mold the patient's stem cells into curative stem cells.

4

Cells are grown and when there are enough, they are shipped back to the doctor's office to be reimplanted into the patient.

5

The newly curative stems cells would flourish and give rise to a new, HIV-resistant immune system, curing the patient of AIDS.





## THE PEOPLE AND PASSION BEHIND THE CURE

RFTCA was formed by Kambiz Shekdar, PhD, a cellular biologist who invented a biotechnology that puts innovative stem cell therapy to practice. Once he realized his technology may hold the key to a cure for AIDS, he answered an irrepressible calling to rid the world of a disease that has plagued people for decades.

RFTCA is an alliance of leaders set up to raise awareness and funding, unite selected stakeholders, and act as a think tank to innovate new models of science, medicine, economics, and health care. RFTCA's fundamental objective is to develop a cure for AIDS which is accessible and affordable for those in need worldwide. This cure represents a major paradigm shift from preventing and treating AIDS with drugs to curing it with cellular therapy.

#### **RFTCA partners include individuals from:**

Community Research Initiative

Columbia University Medical Center/ New York Presbyterian Hospital

The Rockefeller University

Global Emerging Pathogens Treatment Consortium (GET)

Morrison & Foerster LLP

Christopher Street Financial

Jonathan Marder and Company Inc.

Stellenbosch University (Capetown, South Africa)

**Chromocell Corporation** 

AIDS Healthcare Foundation

Ology Research Group

Havas Health Plus

#### Board members of RFTCA:



KAMBIZ SHEKDAR, PhD. President and Founder. Formerly Chief Scientific Officer at Chromocell Corporation



CHARLES KERR, Esa. Former Partner at Morrison & Foerster



ALLISON CERASO President and Chief Experience Officer at Havas Health Plus



PATRICIA MORRIS Director of Biomedical R&D. Senior Scientist Emerita, Population Council; Investigator, The Rockefeller University



CHRISTIAN KOPFLI, Esq. Co-founder and CEO of Chromocell Corporation



JESSE ROBERT LOVEJOY, Esq. Principal. J.R. Lovejoy & Co.



ALI HEMMATI-BRIVANLOU, PhD Head of Laboratory and Professor at The Rockefeller University



KAREN HAGBERG, Esq. Partner, Morrison & Foerster

#### Friends of RFTCA:

Akinola Abayomi Shruti Adhar Stephen Adler Jennufer Ambe Bruce Anderson Penny Arcade Joey Arias Linda Arnsbarger Dale Atkins Holly Atkinson Sergio Baradat **Bob Barbero** Thomas Bark Debbie Beckwith Oded Ben-Horin Robert Benjamin Paul Bennett Noble Black Becca Bressler Nancy Burson Charles Busch Guillermo Chacon Scot & Patrick Chaitoo Robert Galinsku Malika Cosme Ellie Covan Alan Cummina Drew Davis lim Davis Machine Dazzle Flotilla de Barge Olga Dedova Dario de Martino

Lloyd DesBrisay

Franco diLuzio Kevin Dolan Tricia Donegan Brian Downeu Sacha Dunas Brent Nicholson Earle Bill Harveu Chinedu Echeruo Joucelyn Elders Matthew Ellis Van Ellis Sue Evans Andrew Fanelli Jerry Feeneu Daryl Ferrara Colette Ferris Avram Finkelstein Jacob Fishbein Vanessa Fitzgerald & Andrea Aranauren Jeanne Fleming Josh Ford Alessandra Gagliardi Patrik Gallineaux Amin El Gamal Vallejo Gantner Maria Gotsch Logan Gray Barry Greene Michael Griffiths Fric Grossman Jane Gunnison

Scott Hammer

Tuler Hancock Amanda Harmon Coreu Harris & Peter D'Orsaneo Tom Hart Jennifer Hatch John Hemphill Pamela Herron Pati Hertling Jean Marc Houmard Nathanael Holly Brian Howard Becky Howland James Hough & Argie Bucot David Hubschman & Calogero Salvo Lunn Humphreus Colin Jacobsen Eric Jacobsen Heiko Jessen Blanding Jones Kenneth & Esther Kashkin Dave Kaufman Sandu Kaufman Joel Kehle & Anthony Carro Joan Kim Benjamin Kimitch

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#### BE A PART OF HISTORY. HELP US FUND A CURE

The RFTCA is proposing a game-changing method to cure a devastating disease—with the potential to change history and help millions. It seeks greater access to bold thinkers and significant resources to complement the magnitude of their endeavor.

Your donation will be used carefully and purposefully, and is tax-deductible. Here are examples of what your donation may go toward in the laboratory the RFTCA has access to.



#### \$1,000,000

Adapt preliminary results to fresh human stem cells
Using laboratory cells, we have already obtained preliminary
results to create cells that mimic those used to treat "the
Berlin patient." Funding up to this level will allow us to hit
our immediate scientific goal, which represents the pivotal
research milestone of adapting these preliminary results to
freshly isolated human stem cells.

#### \$300,000

Support a research team member's work for a year Salary and experiments for one full-time research technician or scientist in the laboratory. If you donate this amount, a research technician will be supported in your name, or in memory or honor of a person of your choosing.

#### \$1,000 to \$100,000

Support individual experiments and laboratory equipment Basic scientific supplies and equipment, from cell culture petri dishes to centrifuges, microscopes and capital equipment; and supports day-to-day experiments and work performed in the lab.



#### WILL YOU BE A PART OF THE HISTORIC EFFORT TO CURE AIDS?



To set up a call or meeting with Kambiz Shekdar, the President and Founder of RFTCA, and the developer of Chromovert® technology, email him at kambiz.shekdar@RFTCA.org.









RFTCA is a not-for-profit corporation exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations to RFTCA are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowable by law. RFTCA has ultimate authority to use contributions made to it in its discretion for purposes consistent with its tax exempt purpose.

### WE'RE DONE IGNORING IT.

WE'RE DONE HIDING FROM IT.

WE'RE DONE ACCEPTING THE STATUS QUO.

BECAUSE AS IMPOSSIBLE AS SOME MAY THINK,
ONE THING IS CERTAIN:





RFTCA.ORG/DONATE