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**\$100K Campbell Grant
Focuses on Neurological
Issues of HIV**

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\$100K Campbell Grant Focuses on Neurological Issues of HIV

Thanks to a \$100,000 grant from the Campbell Foundation, researchers in Israel can continue developing a method to deliver the HIV med tenofovir through the blood-brain barrier, according to a Campbell Foundation [press release](#).

HIV meds need to cross the blood-brain barrier if they are to fight viral reservoirs in the central nervous system and brain as well as alleviate HIV-related neurological issues. These symptoms include dementia and neuropathy in addition to psychological conditions such as depression.

Eliahu Heldman, PhD, and a team from New York-based biotech company Lauren Sciences are working together at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Israel to use what's called V-Smart technology to deliver tenofovir through the blood-brain barrier in humanized mice (that is, mice with human cells, tissue and, in some cases, organs).

The researchers received a previous Campbell Foundation grant for an earlier stage of this project. The new grant will help them test the efficacy of tenofovir delivered with the V-Smart technology.

"The challenge associated with the deliver of HIV drugs through the blood-brain barrier represent a critical unmet need in the field of AIDS," said Campbell Foundation program director Ken Rapkin in the release.

Since 1995, the [Campbell Foundation](#) has supported nonprofit groups doing clinical and laboratory-based research on treating and preventing HIV.

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