

South Africa has been one of the major sites for HIV, with approximately 6.4 million citizens living with it (CDC, 2022). While international health programs such as the WHO and CDC have been helping citizens fight the epidemic, various cultural and socioeconomic factors have only caused it to further spread. HIV, also known as human immunodeficiency virus, is an autoimmune disease that damages the individual's autoimmune system, specifically by attacking its CD4 cells (CDC, 2022). Therefore, it is essential that those living with HIV and/or in areas prevalent with HIV are educated upon the risk factors of passing on the disease. In South Africa, however, various African beliefs, values, and traditions have resisted the prevention of spreading HIV (Uwah, 2019). In addition, many young women born with HIV (passed down from their mother) have begun giving birth, passing it to their own children (Anderson et al., 2021). Aside from the cultural and social factors that may promote spread of the virus in South Africa, Africans living with HIV often must face economic and social challenges, specifically when needing to get their medication (Keene et al., 2020). In addition, many Africans have various misconceptions towards HIV and the medication they receive, ultimately increasing HIV's antibiotic resistance (Watkins et al., 2019). Lastly, Covid-19 has significantly reduced the number of resources for HIV, preventing many Africans from receiving their medication (Hasan et al., 2021). While South Africa has improved treating HIV, there are still many social, cultural, economic, and medical forces that promote the spread of the disease that must be counteracted.

HIV is an autoimmune virus that decimates the immune system, eventually leading to AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome) if left

