

**The FAIR**  
 Fair Allocations In Research  
**FOUNDATION**

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**From:** FAIR Foundation [mailto:fair@dc.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 11, 2010 11:39 AM  
**To:** 'letters@economist.com'  
**Subject:** Letter to the Economist editor

Dear *Economist* Editor,

Please note links to the facts and quotes I provide.

Your article on HIV entitled "[Altogether Now](#)" may mislead the reader into thinking there was an increase in HIV infections of 40 percent. Kevin Fenton, MD, Director of the National Center for HIV/AIDS, [emphasized](#) that the updated 2006 estimate "does not represent an actual increase in the number of new infections." Even the then-CDC Director, Julie Gerberding, MD, [stated](#) the "good news" that HIV incidence rates "are stable." What actually changed? The method of "guesstimating" the number of cases with the result that they have been 40 percent higher all along with no new increase.

Thank you, in advance, for publishing this correction.

Gratefully,

Dr. Richard Darling, DDS: National Public Citizen of the Year ([NASW](#))  
 President & CEO: [FAIR Foundation](#), thousands working for equality in NIH research funding and to reverse the [organ-donor crisis](#)  
 Founder: [Liver Disease & Transplant Support Group](#)  
 Author: [Coma Life](#), memoir: survival over hepatitis C, liver cancer, 3 transplants, heart attack & diabetes  
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Disease	2011 NIH Research \$	Deaths Per Disease	\$ Per Patient Death	\$ Per Patient
COPD	101 Million	126,128	811	7
Hepatitis C	102 Million	12,000	8,500	23
Cardiovascular	2.1 Billion	864,280	2,429	26
Hepatitis B	54 Million	5,000	10,800	43
Diabetes	1 Billion	72,449	13,803	42
Alzheimer's	480 Million	71,696	6,626	92
Parkinson's	171 Million	19,566	8,739	171
Prostate Cancer	329 Million	28,372	11,595	219
HIV/AIDS	3.2 Billion	14,110	225,656	3,032
All Cancers	6 Billion	559,888	10,716	4,152
Breast Cancer	765 Million	41,210	18,563	4,238
West Nile Virus	41 Million	28	1,464,285	64,364