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Preclinical research performed in nonhuman primates provides the crucial proof-of-concept and scientific foundation to test new strategies in human clinical trials.

Tackling HIV and AIDS: contributions by non-human primate models.
Van Rompay KK.

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The mission of the CNPRC is to improve human health and quality of life through support of exceptional nonhuman primate research programs.

Research Leads to Worldwide Health Benefits
Velmurugan and his wife are HIV-infected and live with their two children in an impoverished village in India. In 2010, Velmurugan had terminal AIDS and was at imminent risk of dying when he approached an NGO that is supported by Sahaya International, a Davis-based 501(3) nonprofit organization founded by CNPRC scientist Dr. Koen Van Rompay. The couple gained access to HIV treatment in a hospital in Chennai, where they were provided with HIV drug tablets containing tenofovir, which is now being used increasingly in developing countries. This successful drug is a direct result of the preclinical research performed on tenofovir in nonhuman primates at CNPRC. Thanks to this treatment, Velmurugan and his wife have seen a dramatic improvement in their health in just one year (right photo taken in 2011); they are able to resume work, and the kids have not been orphaned as is so often the case when families are affected by HIV.

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Sahaya International consists of a diverse network of friends and research scientists committed to making a difference towards improving the quality of life in third world countries.

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