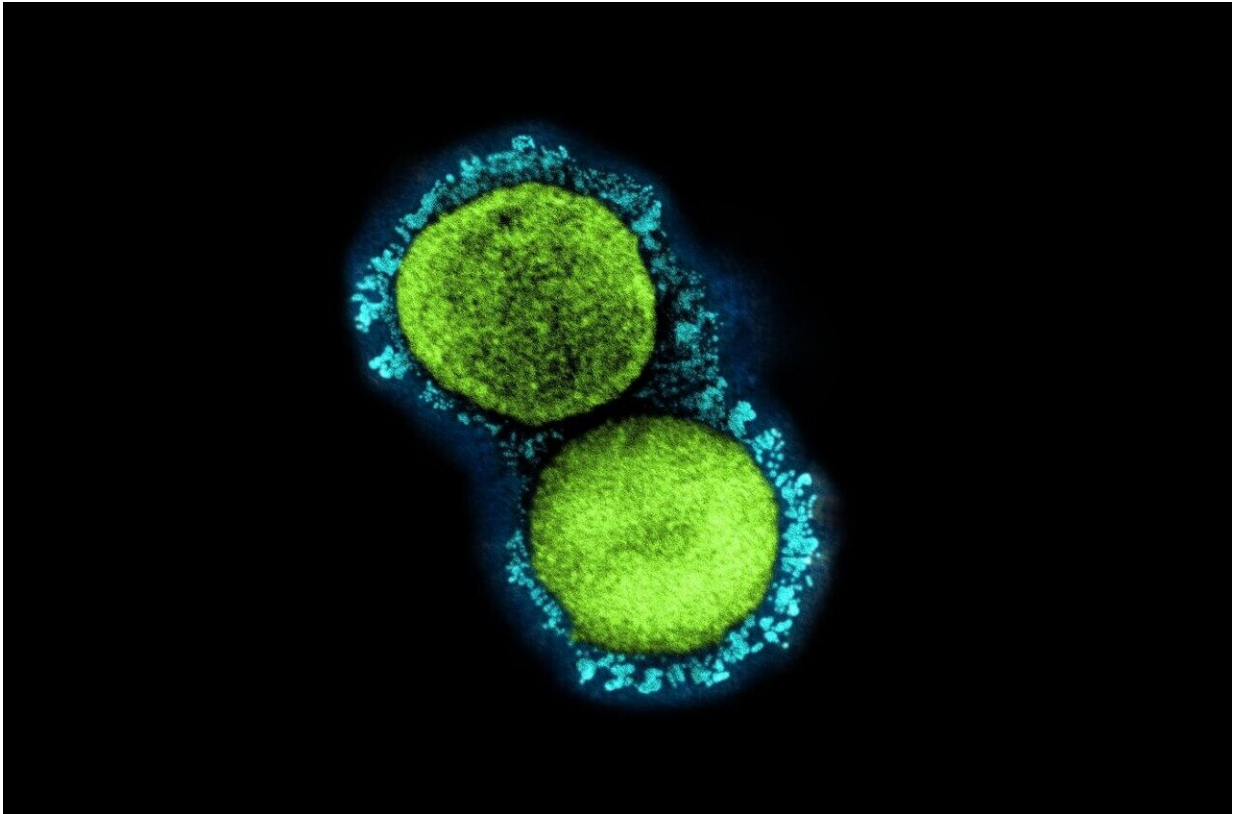


Impact of HIV virus on COVID-19 disease

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A transmission electron micrograph of SARS-CoV-2 virus particles (UK B.1.1.7 variant), isolated from a patient sample and cultivated in cell culture. Credit: NIAID

A new study found that during the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic people living with HIV were less likely to die from COVID than persons without HIV. Hospitalized patients with HIV and COVID

were less likely to require mechanical ventilation and were less likely to die, according to the study published in *AIDS Patient Care and STDs*.

However, when Emma Kapan-Lewis, MD, from HIV Services, NYC Health and Hospitals, and coauthors extended the study period out to a full year of the COVID-19 pandemic they found different results.

"Levels of hospitalization and overall mortality were at least twice as high in people living with HIV versus people without HIV," state the authors.

"However, among hospitalized patients, levels of mortality were comparable between people living with HIV and people without HIV." The authors propose possible reasons for these different findings early in the pandemic and during the extended study period.

More information: Emma Kaplan-Lewis et al, HIV Diagnosis and the Clinical Course of COVID-19 Among Patients Seeking Care Within the New York City Public Hospital System During the Initial Pandemic Peak, *AIDS Patient Care and STDs* (2021). [DOI: 10.1089/apc.2021.0124](https://doi.org/10.1089/apc.2021.0124)

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