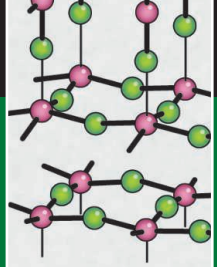
Redox state and neuron activity

805



Cuprates to order

811

HIV/AIDS: The Next Generation

LIKE MANY OTHERS, I WAS SWEPT UP IN THE excitement about the progress we have made in the fight against HIV/AIDS on display at the recent International AIDS Conference in Washington, DC. However, our progress hasn't been universal. In fact, there are a number of areas in which we may be regressing. One is the course of the epidemic among America's youth. Young people between the ages of 13 and 29 have the steepest rise in new HIV infections, compared to stable incidence in other age groups, and account for 39% of all new infections while comprising only 21% of the U.S. population. (*1*, *2*). The CDC estimates that overall, 20% of HIV-positive Americans don't know they are infected, but when youth are isolated from the equation, a staggering 60% have no idea they carry the HIV virus (*3*).

Who are these youth? As with much of the domestic epidemic in the last decade, new infections occur disproportionately among youth of color, who represent 80% (*2*) of new infections. The disease has also hit hardest among young gay and bisexual men (*2*), which paradoxically results in putting many young women at risk for infection. In my clinic in the Bronx, New York, 50% of the clients who identify as young men who have sex with men report also having sex with women (*4*).

By some definitions, there is a new generation every 5 years. Considering that the youth sitting in high school today will be out in the world in as little as 3 years, it's clear that those of us who are called to educate and care for youth must remain vigilant. We must invest in a continually updated and vigorous prevention, testing, and treatment program that evolves to engage each generation of youth. We must be guided by science and not politics. If we maintain the status quo, we risk losing the next generation of youth to apathy and losing our gains through a false hope in the scope of our progress.

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Maximizing Endangered Species Research

THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE RECENTLY prepared a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to experimentally study the removal of northern barred owls (*Strix varia varia*) as part of the recovery effort for the threatened northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*) (*1*). The ethical, economic, and opportunity costs associated with the proposed research raise crucial questions about endangered species research. Previous research on interspecies competition, including spotted owl and barred owl interactions (*2*), has already clearly shown that spotted owls would benefit from the removal of their competitor. As proposed, the new study will merely confirm those results, while failing to address the fundamental problem: how to implement management at a scale that benefits spotted owls.

It is impossible to design appropriate experiments without first identifying feasible management options. The EIS fails to identify how study results would guide management [(*2*), pp. 5–6]. Removal of barred owls at a scale that will be effective for long-term conservation is not realistic because of the expected high immigration rates of barred owls into removal areas. Conducting the proposed removal experiment before designating feasible management approaches will waste funds that could be used for implementing adaptive management. This might include removal of barred owls to create short-term refugia. Adaptive management could take advantage of the high variation in niche overlap (*3*) to promote coexistence. Regardless of the approaches taken, conducting the removal experiments will distract researchers, management agencies, and others from identifying and taking feasible management actions in a timely manner.

Going ahead with the removal experiments would likely result in a loss of public trust. The killing of barred owls for research that is unlikely to be informative, the high financial cost to the public, and the opportunity costs associated with postponing adaptive management have little justification. Public support for wildlife research and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in particular may be severely eroded.

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1. Federal Register, Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Experimental Removal of Barred Owls to Benefit Threatened Northern Spotted Owls (www.federalregister.gov/articles/2012/03/08/2012-5139/draft-environmental-impact-statement-for-experimental-removal-of-barred-owls-to-benefit-threatened).
2. Oregon Fish and Wildlife Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, "Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Experimental Removal of Barred Owls to Benefit Threatened Northern Spotted Owls" (March 2012); www.fws.gov/oregonfwo/Species/Data/NorthernSpottedOwl/BarredOwl/Documents/DraftEIS.ExpRemoval2.20.12.pdf.
3. J. D. Weins, thesis, Oregon State University (2012).

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

Books *et al*.: "An uncommonly open approach" by E. Schlager (13 July, p. 156). In the book information, the title should be *Infrastructure*.

Books *et al*.: "Similarities despite separation" by D. I. Boomsma (13 July, p. 157). In the text of the review, the title should be *Born Together—Reared Apart*.

Reports: "GSK3-TIP60-ULK1 signaling pathway links growth factor deprivation to autophagy" by S.-Y. Lin *et al.* (27 April, p. 477). The following citation was omitted: C. Charvet *et al.*, *Mol. Cell* **42**, 584 (2011). The citation was in the originally submitted version of the manuscript but was deleted during revision. The Charvet paper was the first to show that TIP60 was phosphorylated on Ser^{86} by GSK3.

Reports: "Sexual deprivation increases ethanol intake in *Drosophila*" by G. Shohat-Ophir *et al*. (16 March, p. 1351). An author on the original submission, H. Mohammed, was mistakenly omitted from the list of authors by the coauthors in the published manuscript. He has now been reinstated. The correct author list and affiliations are as follows:

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The HTML version online has been corrected.