

# Yogurt bacteria may soon fight HIV

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Brown University scientists say they've genetically modified some of the 'friendly bacteria' found in yogurt to release a drug that blocks HIV infection.

Although the bacteria have only been tested in the lab, the scientists are optimistic their technique could provide a cheaper and more effective way of delivering drugs to fight the spread of AIDS, nature.com reported.

The researchers, led by Bharat Ramratnam, an HIV specialist at the university, altered the genetic makeup of *L. lactis*, so it generates cyanovirin, a drug that has prevented HIV infection in monkeys and human cells and which will be involved in human trials next year.

The researchers report their findings in the Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

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