

A killer virus at work

Binders

Protein capsule

Genetic material (RNA)

The HIV virus is a small protein capsule containing two strands of genetic material. It measures 0.0001mm in diameter but can destroy the entire human immune system

1. Virus binds to receptors on surface of host cells

Receptors

HOST CELL
(T4 white blood cell)

2. RNA is injected into cell

3. Virus turns RNA into DNA blueprint

4. DNA is integrated into nucleus of host cell

nucleus

5. DNA blueprint used to make copies of virus

6. Copies of virus leave and infect more cells. Host cell dies