

AFRICA

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Acclaimed HIV researcher Professor Quarraisha Abdool Karim, who discovered {that a} topical gel may cease many ladies catching the virus, has been awarded one in all France's high science prizes.

Abdool Karim received the €500 000 (about R9 577 995) Christophe Merieux Prize for her work for the Durban-based Centre for the AIDS Programme of Analysis in South Africa (Caprisa), which she heads.

Caprisa is run on the College of KwaZulu-Natal's medical college.

The Institut de France, which runs the prize, praised her work tracing "the cycle of transmission" of the virus, with "younger ladies usually getting it from males 10 years their senior".

Hailed

In addition they hailed her work on vaccines for the virus and of tips on how to deal with individuals who have tuberculosis and are additionally HIV constructive.

Abdool Karim is greatest recognized for a research that discovered {that a} gel of the anti-retroviral drug tenofovir was efficient in decreasing the chance of ladies catching HIV and genital herpes throughout intercourse.

Abdool Karim, 60, has beforehand received her homeland's highest honour, the Order of Mapungubwe, in addition to a prestigious L'Oral-Unesco for Ladies in Science award.

Her husband, fellow epidemiologist Salim Abdool Karim, is the federal government's most important scientific advisor for Covid-19. She additionally sits on the board of consultants tackling the pandemic there.

The award was because of be offered in Paris subsequent week, however the ceremony was cancelled due to the coronavirus.