For most people, the answer is no.

Most reports of a cure involve HIV-infected people who needed treatment for a terminal cancer. But these treatments are very risky, even life-threatening; they are used only when the HIV-infected people would have died without them.

Antiretroviral therapy (ART), however, can dramatically prolong the lives of many people infected with HIV and lower their chance of infecting others. It’s important that people get tested for HIV and know that they are infected early so that medical care and treatment have the greatest effect.