

PEP

POST EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS

HOURS

MINUTES

SECONDS

12 : 00 : 00

WHAT IS PEP?

PEP is treatment that is prescribed for you following a high-risk sexual exposure in order to prevent HIV infection.

POST

After

EXPOSURE

A situation where HIV has a chance to get into someone's blood stream

PROPHYLAXIS

A treatment to stop an infection happening

HIVPEP treatment is free and it is only available at some STI/GUM clinics or Hospital Emergency Departments

- PEP must be taken within 72 hours of exposure to HIV. The sooner you take it after the exposure, the better it works.
- PEP is not a cure for HIV.
- If you take PEP it doesn't mean that you become immune to HIV. If you are having sex while on PEP, you still need to practice safer sex.
- PEP is a course of tablets lasting 28 days. It is important that you do not miss any doses and complete the course.
- If you are prescribed PEP you will have a series of blood tests and an STI screen, if available.
- PEP is not a vaccine. After completion, safer sex is still the best way of preventing HIV infection.

WHO GETS PEP?

- Not everyone who wants PEP will get it.
- Doctors at the clinic or hospital will decide following an assessment.
- It's important to give the doctor clear information on the incident.
- You will be asked the details of your sexual activity. For example if your partner was HIV positive and if they were on treatment.
- You will be asked if contact can be made with this person to verify their HIV status.
- Whether or not you are prescribed PEP, it is important that you follow up 12 weeks after the incident for further testing.

WHERE TO GET PEP

- Remember, PEP works best when taken as soon as possible after risk of exposure to HIV and must be taken within 72 hours. Attend your nearest GUM clinic or Hospital Emergency Department: don't wait until the clinic nearest to you is open.
- PEP is available in STI/GUM clinics and Hospital Emergency Departments. For more details on GUM/STI clinics please visit www.rainbow-project.org

The Rainbow Project

For more information, support or advice please contact us:



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