



PRE-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS (PREP) TO PREVENT HIV IN AUSTIN/TRAVIS COUNTY

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WHAT IS PREP?

- HIV prevention strategy
- Taking Anti-HIV medications before coming into contact with HIV
- Single pill taken once daily
- 2012 - CDC approved PrEP for the Prevention of HIV Transmission, and]
- Recommended by the World Health Organization, the International Society of Infectious Disease, the Texas Department of State Health Services and the Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department



HOW EFFECTIVE IS PREP?

- PrEP has been shown in many studies and “real world” situations to reduce the risk of getting HIV infection from sex by more than 90% among those who regularly take their medications.
- Among people who inject drugs, PrEP reduces the risk of getting HIV by more than 70% when used consistently.



GUIDELINES FOR PREP USE

- On May 14, 2014, the US Public Health Service released the first comprehensive clinical practice guidelines for PrEP
- The guidelines recommend that PrEP be considered for people who are HIV-negative and at substantial risk for HIV infection.



“SUBSTANTIAL RISK”

- Sexual partner with HIV
- Recent bacterial STD
- High number of sex partners
- History of inconsistent or no condom use
- Commercial sex work
- Lives in high-prevalence area or network
- Intravenous Drug Users
 - HIV-positive injecting partner
 - Sharing injection equipment
 - Recent drug treatment (but currently injecting)



KEY POINTS ABOUT PREP

- PrEP is only for people who are at ongoing substantial risk of HIV infection.
- PrEP must only be prescribed as part of a comprehensive prevention strategy.
- People who use PrEP must commit to taking the drug every day and seeing their health care provider for follow-up every three months.
- PrEP must only be prescribed to individuals confirmed to be HIV-negative immediately prior to initiating treatment. Test patients for HIV before initiating PrEP and at least every 3 months during use.



LOCAL PREP ACTIVITY

- Strong community support from Aids Services of Austin, HIV Planning Council, and others
- Austin PrEP Access Project in April 2015 (austinprepaccessproject.org).
 - Opened their first clinic hours in May, 2015.
 - Currently have three after hour's clinics a week:
 - Presently, over 300 patients seeing their volunteer providers and accessing Truvada at no cost to them.
- Community Care and other physicians also offering.

