

Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis for HIV Prevention Program

Lifespan HIV/STI Testing and Prevention Services
The Miriam Hospital Immunology Center
1125 N Main St, Providence, RI 02906



The Miriam Hospital
A Lifespan Partner

Patient Information

Protect Yourself!

HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are still a major problem in Rhode Island. We recommend that if you have sex, you should be tested at least once a year for HIV and other STIs. If you're interested in protecting yourself from HIV, use condoms and ask your sex partners if they have been tested recently. If you are having sex with someone who has HIV, they should be on treatment, which helps prevent them from transmitting HIV to you.

WHAT is PrEP?

Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) is a prescription medicine which helps prevent people from getting infected with HIV. PrEP is a single pill that contains the prescription medicines emtricitabine and tenofovir disoproxil fumarate.

WHO should consider PrEP?

Anyone can become infected with HIV. You must be negative for HIV to start PrEP. We are offering PrEP to people who may be at risk of HIV.

HOW should PrEP be used?

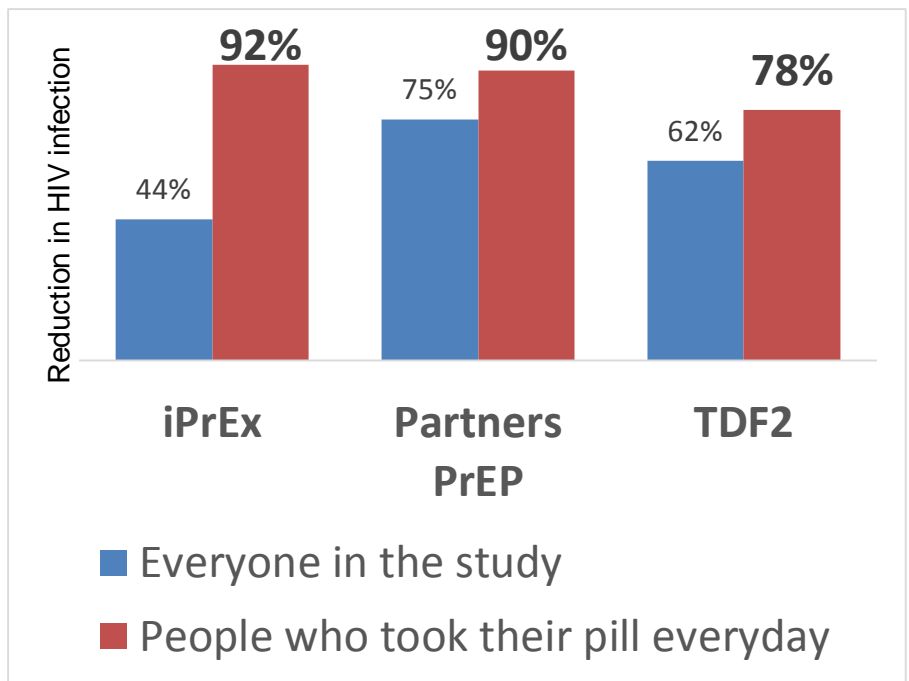
PrEP should be used with condoms. This is because PrEP is not 100% effective. The usual dose of PrEP is 1 pill once a day. While using PrEP, you will need to be tested every 3 months to make sure you remain HIV negative.

What are most common SIDE-EFFECTS for people using PrEP?

- Stomach upset (nausea) can occur and typically goes away after a couple weeks.
- The medication can cause kidney problems, so we monitor kidney function closely.
- Other potential side effects include the weakening or softening of bones and liver problems (rare).

How EFFECTIVE is PrEP?

The medication depends on how well a person takes the pill each day. For people who take their pills almost every day, PrEP can significantly reduce their risk of getting HIV. People who take their pills less regularly have less protection against HIV. This graph shows results from three studies on the ability of PrEP to reduce the risk of HIV infection.



FREE and CONFIDENTIAL HIV/STI Testing
1125 North Main Street, Providence, RI 02906
Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 12:30-3:30pm