



HIV Prevention

All about PEP

What's PEP?

PEP is short for HIV '**post**-exposure prophylaxis'.

- PEP is a course of tablets you can take to prevent HIV if there is a risk you may have been exposed to HIV.
- You might have been exposed to HIV if you had sex without a condom, or you shared injecting drug equipment, or you had a needle stick injury.
- PEP tablets work best if they are taken within 72 hours of the exposure to HIV, e.g., within 72 hours of having sex without a condom or sharing injecting equipment.
- A course of PEP medicine is taken for about 30 days.

What's PrEP – is it the same as PEP?

No. PrEP is different to PEP. PrEP is short for HIV '**pre**-exposure prophylaxis'.

- PrEP tablets can be taken before sex to prevent HIV.
- For information see the factsheet: **HIV prevention – all about PrEP**.

How does PEP work?

PEP is medicine that stops HIV taking hold in your immune system.

- The most important thing about PEP is that it needs to be started within 72 hours of the time you think you may have been exposed to HIV.

Where do you get PEP?

If you're worried that you may have been exposed to HIV go to a doctor, clinic, sexual health service or hospital emergency department – within 72 hours.

Don't be shame

Asking about PEP is taking responsibility for your health. Spread the word about PEP and help end HIV!

To find out more about PEP go to
www.atsihiv.org.au/health-promotion/pep/

Let's look after our health and get tested for STIs and BBVs. If we all test and get treated, we can stop the spread of STIs and BBVs in our community.