

Lab Work Needed to Start PrEP and for Ongoing Management¹

Test	Truvada & Descovy Oral PrEP	Apretude Long-Acting Injectable
HIV Status <ul style="list-style-type: none">» HIV test(s)» Signs/symptoms of acute HIV infection» Counsel about continuing PrEP, adherence, side effects, etc	At start & every 3 months	At start, at 1 month, then every 2 months
Renal (kidney) status	At start & every 12 months	
STI screening (syphilis, gonorrhea, chlamydia) 3-site testing for MSM	At start & every 3-6 months	At start & every 2-6 months
Lipid screen (cholesterol/ triglycerides)	Only for persons prescribed Descovy; at start & every 12 months	
Hepatitis B virus, hepatitis C virus screens	At start	
Pregnancy test	For clients of childbearing potential	For clients of childbearing potential



<https://readysetprep.hiv.gov>
or call: 855-447-8410

Preprescription Assessment and Evaluation

Counselors/clinicians should **NOT** withhold PrEP from clients who:

- Have a substance use disorder
- Are pregnant or planning to conceive
- Are breast/chest feeding
- Have mental health disorders of any severity
- Experience intimate partner violence
- Have unstable housing or limited social support
- Have recently had an STI
- Have a partner living with HIV who has an undetectable viral load

Counselors/clinicians should:

Initiate a discussion of the client’s sexual history and drug use history; identify behaviors that may place the client at greater risk for HIV, and encourage safer drug injection and safer sex practices

Individualize decision-making: make sure the client understands the purpose, benefits, and risks associated with PrEP

Make clear that PrEP efficacy depends on consistently taking a pill daily or injections every other month, as well as the recommended lab work and follow-up care

Refer for appropriate social and psychological support services as indicated

nPEP (nonoccupational PostExposure Prophylaxis) is the use of antiretroviral medications after a very recent potential exposure to HIV, in order to prevent infection.⁴



Medication must be started within **72 hours** of possible exposure!

- Obtain a history of the potential exposure event
- » Does the client know their own HIV and hepatitis B status and the status of the potential source?
 - » Timing of event
 - » Type of exposure and risk for HIV

- If nPEP is indicated, refer the client for testing and medication
- » Client should be tested for HIV, STIs, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and pregnancy (if appropriate)
 - » Medication is taken daily for 28 days
 - Truvada (TDF/FTC) once daily PLUS
 - Isentress (raltegravir) 400 mg twice daily **OR** Tivicay (dolutegravir) 50 mg once daily

After 28-day course, documentation of HIV-negative status, and behavioral reassessment, discuss transition to PrEP

Continue HIV/STI testing at guideline-based intervals

Usually covered by insurance; patient assistance program subsidy may be available on an urgent basis

References

1. CDC. US Public Health Service (USPHS). Preexposure Prophylaxis for the Prevention of HIV Infection in the United States—2021 Update. <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/risk/prep/cdc-hiv-prep-guidelines-2021.pdf>.
2. Biello KB, et al. *AIDS Care*. 2019;31(10):1214-1220.
3. New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) AIDS Institute. Clinical guidelines program. 2022. <https://www.hivguidelines.org/home/guideline-slides-and-pocket-guides/>.
4. CDC Stacks. Updated guidelines for antiretroviral postexposure prophylaxis after sexual, injection drug use, or other nonoccupational exposure to HIV—United States, 2016. <https://stacks.cdc.gov/view/cdc/38856>.

ART, antiretroviral therapy; MSM, men who have sex with men; SSP, syringe services program; STI, sexually transmitted infection.

Paying for PrEP Medication, Lab Work, & Clinic Visits



PrEP is covered by most health insurance programs and Medicaid. Under the Affordable Care Act, PrEP must be completely covered by almost all health insurance plans. This includes PrEP, clinic visits, and ongoing lab tests. Some states have PrEP assistance programs too.

Below are federal and patient payment programs to explore:

- Ready, Set, PrEP!
- » Provides free PrEP medication if the client:
 - Doesn't have health insurance coverage for prescription drugs
 - Has taken an HIV test and received a negative result
 - Has a prescription for PrEP
 - Lives in the United States, including tribal lands or territories
 - » Clinic visits and lab tests may vary depending on income

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Free Truvada and Descovy (if client doesn't have insurance)

- » Advancing Access Patient Assistance Program:

<https://www.gileadadvancingaccess.com/financial-support/uninsured>

Co-pay assistance for Truvada and Descovy (if client has nongovernment insurance)

- » Advancing Access: 1-877-505-6986 or access online:

<https://www.gileadadvancingaccess.com/copay-coupon-card>

Assistance for Apretude: ViiV Connect:

<https://www.viivconnect.com/for-providers/viivconnect-programs/>



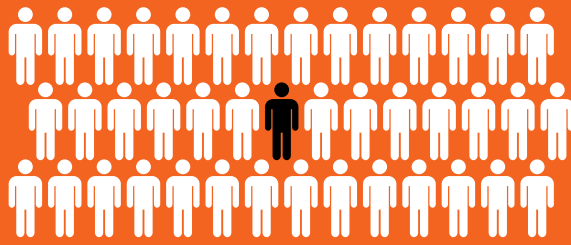
BUILDING BRIDGES TO REACH PEOPLE WHO INJECT DRUGS WITH THE GOAL OF EMPLOYING PrEP FOR HIV PREVENTION

POCKET GUIDE

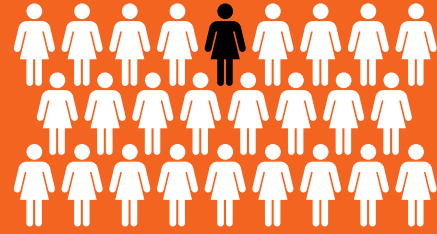
HIV Prevention for People Who Inject Drugs



Did you know that among people who inject drugs (PWID), **1** in 42 men,

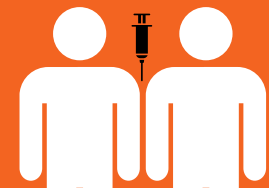


and **1** in 26 women



will contract HIV in their lifetimes

Sharing syringes is the **2nd** riskiest behavior for getting HIV



PrEP (PreExposure Prophylaxis) for HIV prevention is a comprehensive set of services to reduce the risk of HIV.¹

It includes the option of 3 FDA-approved medications for PrEP:

- » **Truvada®**: oral daily tenofovir disoproxil fumarate/emtricitabine (TDF/FTC) (available in generic)
- » **Descovy®**: oral daily tenofovir alafenamide/emtricitabine (TAF/FTC)
- » **Apretude®**: cabotegravir long-acting injectable (CAB LAI)

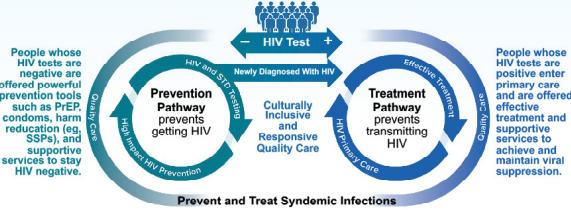
Medications may only be used in persons without HIV:

- » Only oral daily Truvada has been shown to prevent HIV transmission through **injection drug use**²
- » All are indicated to reduce the risk of **sexually** acquired HIV
 - Descovy may not be used in individuals having receptive vaginal sex

Comprehensive services include:

- » Regular HIV screening
- » Regular STI (sexually transmitted infection) screening
- » Harm-reduction + safer sex counseling

Normalize HIV testing and discuss PrEP with all PWID and all sexually active adult and adolescent clients. Refer for ART if HIV test results are positive.



Who Is at Risk for HIV Infection and Should Consider PrEP?¹

PWID

- » Has injection partner living with HIV **OR**
- » Shares needles, syringes, or other drug injection equipment

Sexually Active Teens and Adults

- » Anal or vaginal sex in the past 6 months AND any of the following:
 - Inconsistent/no condom use
 - Partner living with HIV
 - Gonorrhea, chlamydia, or syphilis in the past 6 months
- » Clients who request PrEP should be offered it, even when no specific risk behaviors are identified or brought up in conversation

Learn About PrEP

Using PrEP	Truvada & Descovy Oral PrEP	Apretude Long-Acting Injectable
Clinically eligible for PrEP if all are true ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none">» HIV test is negative (within 1 week before starting PrEP)» No sign of HIV infection» Renal function at a safe level (levels differ for these medications; renal function is determined by a simple blood test)» No medications that are disallowed with Truvada or Descovy» Weigh ≥77 lbs (35 kg)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">» HIV test is negative (within 1 week before first injection)» No sign of HIV infection» No medications that are disallowed with Apretude» Weigh ≥77 lbs (35 kg)
Who should/should not take it? ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Only Truvada is approved to prevent HIV from IDU (injection drug use) and from vaginal and anal sexual activity²» Descovy should not be used by those at risk for HIV from having receptive vaginal sex; its effectiveness has not been studied in this population	<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Approved to prevent HIV from vaginal and anal sexual activity
Side effects ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Headache, diarrhea, and nausea» Side effects are uncommon and usually resolve within the first month¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Injection-site reaction (ie, pain, tenderness, redness, warmth)» Injection-site reactions are common and transient¹
Adherence/stopping ^{1,3}	<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Remind clients that PrEP effectiveness is highly dependent on adherence to the medication» Refer clients to their health care providers if they wish to stop any PrEP medication	



Find PrEP Services for Your Clients

PrEP Services Locator

- » <https://pleaseprepme.org/find-a-provider/>
- » <https://pleaseprepme.org/online-providers/>



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