

### What is PrEP?

PrEP stands for pre-exposure prophylaxis. The medication that is used for PrEP is called Truvada. It contains two active medications for HIV prevention.



### Why should I take PrEP?

PrEP helps reduce the risk of getting the HIV virus for people who are HIV negative and at a higher risk of HIV infection.



PrEP decreases the risk of getting HIV from sex by

90%



PrEP decreases the risk of getting HIV from injection drug use by

70%



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For more information on PrEP visit:

<https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/basics/prep.html>



PRE-EXPOSURE  
PROPHYLAXIS



FREQUENTLY ASKED  
QUESTIONS

### How do I take PrEP?

PrEP is a pill taken once daily with or without food at the same time every day.



<https://www.aides.org/prep>

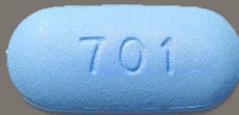
### Is PrEP safe?

Yes. PrEP has been shown in clinical studies to be safe to take and to reduce your chance of getting HIV.

### What are the side effects of PrEP?

Some of the more common side effects include:

- Headache
- Loss of appetite
- Nausea and vomiting
- Upset stomach



<https://aidsinfo.nih.gov/drugs/406/truvada/0/patient>

### Will PrEP increase risky sexual behaviors?

PrEP has not been shown to increase risky sexual behaviors.

### Can I stop using condoms once I start taking PrEP?

No. PrEP does not 100% protect against HIV or other STDs. It is still important to use safe sex practices.



<https://www.istockphoto.com/vector/condom-icon-with-long-shadow-gm614954752-106551337>

### When does PrEP start working?

PrEP becomes most effective for receptive anal sex after 7 days of continued use, and effective for receptive vaginal sex after 20 days of continued use.



### What should I do if I miss a dose?

It is important to take PrEP as prescribed. If it is not taken consistently, PrEP can become less effective. If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. However, if it is almost time for the next doses, just take your regularly scheduled dose.



### How often should I follow up with my provider?

You must follow up with your doctor at least every 3 months, or as soon as your provider deems necessary.



### How long should I take PrEP?

As long as you are eligible for PrEP or as long as you are at higher risk of getting HIV. Talk to your provider before stopping the medication.

### What else should I know about PrEP?

Talk to your provider before starting any new medications or if you want to become pregnant. Remember, PrEP is only for people who are HIV negative. If you become HIV positive, more HIV medications are needed.



<https://www.hivplusmag.com/prevention/2016/11/08/hiv-prevention-now-fully-affordable>

