

# What Is PEP?

If you are HIV-negative and you believe you have just been exposed to HIV, PEP (Post-Exposure Prophylaxis) is medication you can take that may prevent HIV infection. PEP works best if taken within 36 hours of exposure.

**If you think you were exposed to HIV, go to a hospital emergency room (ER) right away and bring this information with you. Or, if you can talk with your primary care provider right away, call as soon as possible if you:**

- Didn't use a condom -- or the condom broke or slipped off -- during anal or vaginal sex with someone who is HIV positive or who may be HIV positive.
- Had unprotected oral sex with someone who you know is HIV positive or someone whose HIV status you don't know. (You are less likely to get HIV from oral sex.)
- Shared needles or other drug injection equipment.
- Were raped or sexually assaulted.

## **What can you expect when you go to get PEP?**

- Questions about your exposure --- answering honestly will help you and the provider figure out your risk.
- An HIV test.
- Tests for sexually transmitted diseases.
- Offers of a pregnancy test and birth control, if appropriate.
- A prescription for PEP, if needed.
- Information about the next steps you should take.

### Resources for your health care provider

PEpline: 1-866-637-2342 (providers only)

[www.hivguidelines.org/clinical-guidelines/post-exposure-prophylaxis](http://www.hivguidelines.org/clinical-guidelines/post-exposure-prophylaxis)



Save this information  
to your mobile device  
in case of emergency.

