PEP Can Prevent HIV If You Act Fast!

PEP (Post-Exposure Prophylaxis) is medication that can prevent you from getting HIV after a possible exposure. **PEP medication is most effective when started as early as possible**, but not later than 72 hours after the exposure.

**Act as soon as possible if you:**
- Had anal or vaginal sex without a condom with someone who is HIV positive or whose HIV status you don’t know.
- Had anal sex or vaginal sex and the condom broke or slipped off.
- 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.

**If you think you were exposed to HIV, you can obtain the medication fast by:**
1. Calling the NYS or NYC PEP hotline. If you need PEP medication, they will call the prescription in to pharmacy near you:
   - In NYC: (844) 3-PEPNYC (844-373-7692)
   - For NYS outside of NYC: (844) PEP4NOW (844-737-4669)
2. Talking with your primary care provider right away and asking whether they can provide PEP medication by sending a prescription directly to a pharmacy near you that has the medication in stock.
3. Going to the local emergency room right away and bringing this information with you.

**What can you expect when you call the PEP hotline or go to get PEP?**
- Questions about your exposure --- answering honestly will help you and the provider figure out your risk.
- An HIV test and other tests including ones to check 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 to stay healthy.

For more information on PEP go to the NYSDOH brochure: [I Might Have Been Exposed to HIV](https://www.hivguidelines.org/pep-for-hiv-prevention/)

**Resources for your health care provider:** CEI LINE - 1-866-637-2342
https://www.hivguidelines.org/pep-for-hiv-prevention/

Scan and save this information to your mobile device in case you ever need it.

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