

Paying for PrEP

- As of Nov. 27, 2017, neither Truvada nor generic PrEP is publicly funded in B.C.
- If you are First Nations, Inuit or Métis and have status, full federal funding for PrEP is available.
- Some extended health insurance packages provide limited coverage for PrEP, especially generics.
- Online international pharmacy that ships to the U.S. for around \$45 a month:
daviebuyersclub.wordpress.com
- \$260 generic PrEP mailed within Canada:
<https://www.get-prep.com/3-steps-to-prep-britishcolombia/>



AIDS Vancouver Island

Men's Health and Wellness
Program

Calls: 1-800-665-2437
Text: 250-812-2670
jonathan.degenhardt@avi.org or
nathan.grills@avi.org

AIDS Vancouver Island offers harm reduction services, health promotion programming, and a positive wellness program for people living with Hep C and/or H.I.V.

We have offices in Victoria, Nanaimo, Courtenay and Campbell River. For more info, visit www.avi.org

Are You PrEP'd?

PrEP:
*A Daily Pill that
Helps Protect
Against H.I.V.*



What is PrEP?

- PrEP stands for pre-exposure prophylaxis. It is a medication that HIV - people can take to reduce their risk of becoming HIV +
- Truvada - one pill that combines two modern anti-retrovirals was the first form of PrEP in Canada and costs almost \$1000 a month. Generics are starting to become available.
- Taking this medication daily allows HIV - people to build up consistent levels of anti-HIV medication in their blood and tissues to protect them from HIV.
- PrEP takes approximately 20 days to reach maximum levels in cervico-vaginal tissue (the vagina or front hole) and the bloodstream, & about 7 days in rectal (ass) tissue.

What PrEP Is Not:

- PrEP provides no protection against other STI's like Chlamydia, Gonorrhoea or Syphilis, which can be spread more easily than HIV. It is important to have regular testing for STI's. Remember, all STI's are treatable, most are curable and the consistent use of condoms remains a highly effective practice.
- PrEP is not to be pursued as a crisis response. However, starting similar medications (known as PEP, or post-exposure prophylaxis) within 72 hours of a potential exposure to HIV can significantly reduce the risk of becoming HIV positive. To access PEP, go straight to the nearest emergency room or contact AVI or a Sexual Health Clinic for support.

Getting a Prescription

- Taking PrEP requires frequent visits to the doctor and testing.
- If you have a family doctor that you are comfortable speaking with, they may be able to prescribe PrEP.
- Cool Aid's Health Clinic in Victoria at 713 Johnson Street can prescribe PrEP.
- If you are a self-identified man who has sex with men, and you can travel to Vancouver for follow up visits, you can access PrEP through the Health Initiative for Men's clinic at #421— 1033 Davie Street. Their phone number is 604-488-1001 ext. 223 or 227.
- We are working to build a network to support PrEP access. Please contact us for support or to share info.