

Publicly Funded PrEP

- PrEP is provincially funded for British Columbians at high risk. Publicly funded PrEP is administered through the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS' Drug Treatment Program (CfE's DTP)
- Your prescriber completes the CFE's PrEP enrollment form and faxes it back to the DTP. The enrolment form & detailed instructions can be downloaded at <http://cfenet.ubc.ca/publications/centre-documents/pre-exposure-prophylaxis-prep-enrolment-prescription-request-form>
- The DTP reviews the request and fills the prescription, shipping it back to the office of your prescriber.
- The federal government publicly funds PrEP for Indigenous people with status.



AIDS Vancouver Island

AVI offers harm reduction services, health promotion programming, and a positive wellness program for people living with Hep C and/or H.I.V. Brochure updated Jan 9, 2018

Men's Health and Wellness Program (Based in Victoria, Travels): Calls: 1-800-665-2437
Text: 250-812-2670
jonathan.degenhardt@avi.org
or nathan.grills@avi.org

Nanaimo: 250-754-9111 , 102-55 Victoria Road,

Comox Valley: 1-877-311-7400, 355 6th St., Courtenay

Campbell River: 250-830-0787, 1371 Cedar Street.

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 negative people can take to reduce their risk of becoming HIV positive.
- Truvada - one pill that combines two modern anti-retrovirals was the first form of PrEP in Canada. Generics are increasingly becoming available.
- Taking this medication daily allows HIV negative 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 (e.g. tests for STI's, HIV and kidney health).
- 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 St. prescribes PrEP.
- We are working to build a network to support PrEP access. Please contact us for navigation or to share info.
- The CfE in HIV has released guidelines on PrEP that many prescribers will refer to when considering prescribing PrEP. For many men who have sex with men, this will often include a short "HIRI-MSM" questionnaire. Web Address: <http://www.cfenet.ubc.ca/publications/centre-documents/guidance-use-pre-exposure-prophylaxis-prevention-hiv-acquisition>