Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) After Sexual Assault to Prevent an HIV Infection

Start here

What is your HIV status?

- POSITIVE
  - If you are positive, this therapy is not for you. Please continue taking your medication as directed by your healthcare provider.

- UNKNOWN OR NEGATIVE

Was your sexual assault in the last 72 hours?

- NO
  - Stop here as this therapy is not indicated to start after 72 hours. You healthcare provider will give you information for testing recommendations going forward.

- YES

Let’s discuss your health status in general and current medication therapy!

Risk Tolerance

- Low Risk sexual assault
  - Barrier protection/dry sexual contact
  - oral
  - vaginal
  - all the way up to receptive anal sex

- High Risk
  - forced receptive anal sex with multiple attackers
  - attackers who threaten you with their HIV status
  - attackers who share needles or have receptive anal sex with other males
  - attackers who have sex for money or pay for sex

While some sexual assaults might be considered low risk, or you might hear this term used it does not equal no risk. If this is something you are concerned about you have the right to request this medication.

- Ask your SANE nurse and talk to the Emergency Room Doctor about your options.
- Every patient should be offered this medication.

Risk vs. Benefit

- The Emergency Room doctor will discuss risk versus benefits based on your current health status and the medications or drugs that you take daily.

- This therapy is tolerated well. It is what is given to healthcare providers when they have a contaminated needle stick at work.

Most Common Side Effects:

- fatigue (tired feeling)
- nausea (feeling sick to your stomach)
- vomiting or diarrhea

If you have any of these symptoms your healthcare provider can recommend the best medications to help you tolerate these medications.
Practicalities

- **28 day therapy of anti-viral medication**
- **Isentress**
- **Isentress and Truvada**
- **Return immediately to the emergency room for vomiting, belly pain, yellow skin or any concerns on how you are tolerating these medications.**

- You will need blood work done at the time these medications are started and again in about 10 days to see how your body is tolerating them.

Financial Resources

If you cannot afford these medication and do not have insurance the drug is available from the manufacturer on an Emergency Application. You will need the doctors signature on these forms so ask them to print them now and get them signed while you are in the Emergency Room.

- **Manufacturer-based Programs:**
  - Gilead’s “Advancing Access®”: 1-800-727-5400
  - Merck’s SUPPORT™: 1-800-850-3430

- **Non Manufacturer-based Programs:**
  - Patient Advocate Foundation Co-Pay Relief Program: Hotline: 866-512-3861 #1
  - aidsetc.org | PEPline: 1-888-448-4911

References
