PrEP Choice Post Card: October 2024 v3

Taken daily, PrEP is an additional prevention option for HIV-negative people.



### What is PrEP?

PrEP or pre-exposure prophylaxis, is medication (daily pill) taken by an HIV-negative person to prevent them from becoming HIV-positive.

## **How should I take PrEP?**

You take one PrEP pill once a day with or without food. It helps to take the pill at the same time each day so that you do not forget. If you forget to take the pill, take it as soon as you remember but do not take more than 1 pill in one day.

#### Why should I take PrEP?

PrEP helps to prevent HIV for HIV-negative people.

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# What do / need to know about PrEP? IMPORTANT

- Important to have an HIV test every 3 months.
- PrEP does not cure HIV.
- PrEP may not keep you from getting HIV. PrEP is part of a combination approach to prevent HIV, so we encourage you to use other safe sex practices such as using condoms and lubricants.
- Your pills are for you ONLY. Please do not share them with anyone else as this may harm their health and yours too.
- $\cdot$  In the first 7 days of taking PrEP, you are not yet fully protected and need to use use a condom too.

# What are the side effects?

- · Some people get mild side effects when they start PrEP. Most go away after a few weeks once your body gets used to the medicine.
- Don't stop taking your PrEP side effects can be managed and will go away.

Speak to your healthcare provider.

### Where should I keep PrEP?

PrEP should be kept in a cool dry place. closed container.

or don't feel well when taking PrEP. let vour healthcare provider know as soon as possible. Tell them if you are taking any other medication/herbs/vitamins because this might affect how the PrEP works or how the other medication works.