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](#)

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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Updated May 2020