

## Is PrEP right for you?

PrEP might be a good choice for you if:

- ♦ You do not always use a condom during sex.
- ♦ You've had an STI in the past 6 months.
- ♦ Your partner lives with HIV.
- ♦ Your partner's HIV status is unknown.
- ♦ You use injection drugs.
- ♦ Your partner uses injection drugs.

## Won't safer sex and clean needles prevent HIV infection?

Using condoms every time you have sex is very effective at preventing HIV/STI infection. But some people don't use a condom every time. They don't want to use one or they get caught up in the moment. People who don't always use condoms may want to use PrEP to prevent HIV.



PrEP does not prevent STIs. Using condoms in conjunction with PrEP is the most effective way to prevent HIV and STI infection.

Clean needles can prevent HIV infection, but sometimes they aren't available. If people share equipment, they may exchange infected blood. People who inject drugs may want to use PrEP.

## What are PrEP's side effects?

PrEP is safe. However, some people experience side effects like diarrhea, nausea, headache, fatigue and stomach pain. They usually go away over time. Tell your health care provider about any side effects that are severe or do not go away.

## What else should I know?

Once you start PrEP, you'll need an HIV test every 3 months.



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@healthydekalb

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# PrEP for You?

**Use PrEP to prevent HIV infection**

## What is HIV?

The human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) is the virus that causes acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS). HIV can be found in the semen, vaginal and rectal fluids, blood, and breast milk of a person with HIV.

About half of the people who become infected with HIV develop AIDS within 10 years. Even though HIV is a serious infection, people with HIV and AIDS are now living longer, healthier lives thanks to improved medical care, new medications and other advances.



## What is PrEP?

**PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis)** is a daily pill that reduces your risk of getting HIV.

Take PrEP and take your life into your own hands. Protect your future!

## What are the types of PrEP?

**Oral medications:** Truvada® is for all people who are at risk for HIV infection through sex or injection drug use. Descovy® is for people at risk through sex, except for those assigned female at birth who are at risk from vaginal sex.

**Injectable medication:** Apretude® is for use by all people who are at risk for HIV infection through sex. The injections are given every two months.



All photos of persons are models.

## What is PEP?

**PEP (post-exposure prophylaxis)** is a medication for use after an individual has possibly been exposed to HIV. This can happen, for example, when a condom breaks during sex or when needles are shared to inject drugs. PEP must be started *within 72 hours* after a possible exposure and lasts for 28 days.

Call the PrEP clinic (Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.) or go to an emergency room.

## How much do PrEP and PEP cost?

If you're uninsured, PrEP and PEP services are free or low cost. Otherwise, your insurance company is billed. Copay assistance is available for insured patients.

## About the PrEP Clinic

**Address:** T.O. Vinson Health Center, 1st Floor  
440 Winn Way  
Decatur, Ga. 30030

**Phone:** (404) 294-3700 or after hours  
call or text (470) 457-2916

## Call today for an appointment.

DeKalb Public Health's PrEP clinic started in 2019 as a pilot program funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Later that year, the clinic opened for the community at large.

The PrEP clinic now provides comprehensive services to residents of DeKalb and surrounding counties. The staff includes a nurse practitioner, a public health educator and a clerk who provide wrap-around services.



## DeKalb Public Health's Vision and Mission

**Vision:** A healthier DeKalb County where all residents have equitable access to public health resources and live healthy lives.

**Mission:** To protect, promote and improve the health and well-being of all DeKalb County residents.