



Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Patient Information

Pharmacy Name: _____

Pharmacy Address: _____ Phone Number: () _____ - _____

This page contains important information for you; please read it carefully.

You have been prescribed Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) to help prevent Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) infection. Listed below are some key points to remember about these medications, and a list of important next steps that will need to be completed to confirm the PEP worked for you.

Key Points

- PEP must be started within 72 hours (3 days) after you may have been exposed to HIV.
- Take every dose. If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember.
 - If it is close to the time of your next dose, just take that dose.
 - Do not double up on doses to make up for the missed dose.
- Do not stop taking the medication without first asking your doctor or pharmacist.
- The most common side effects (if they do happen) are stomach upset. Taking the medication with food can help with stomach upset. Over-the-counter nausea and diarrhea medications are okay to use with PEP if needed.
- Avoid nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) like ibuprofen or naproxen while taking PEP.
- PEP is effective in preventing HIV when it is taken correctly, but it is not 100% effective. The sooner PEP is started after a possible HIV exposure, the better.
- While taking PEP, it is important to keep using other HIV prevention methods, such as consistently and properly using condoms with sex partners and using only new, sterile needles and syringes when injecting drugs.

Follow-up and Next Steps

1. Contact your primary care provider to let them know you have been prescribed PEP because they will need to order lab tests and see you for follow up care. The pharmacy cannot do these lab tests.
2. Our pharmacist will contact your primary care provider to let them know what labs they should order for you.

3. The labs listed below are recommended to be completed at 4 to 6 weeks and at 3 months after receiving PEP. Your provider may order additional labs if needed.
 - HIV antigen/antibody (4th gen) test
 - Hepatitis B surface antigen and surface antibody
 - Hepatitis C antibody
 - Comprehensive metabolic panel
 - Treponema pallidum antibody as appropriate
 - Chlamydia and gonorrhea testing using nucleic acid amplification tests (if positive, retesting 3 months after treatment is recommended)
4. If you think that you might still be at risk of HIV infection after you finish the 30-day PEP treatment, talk to your doctor about starting Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) after finishing PEP.
5. If you do not have a primary care provider, one of the [Federally Qualified Health Center](#) locations in the state may be a resource.