

## How long do I need to take PrEP? - PrEP, part 6

PrEP, or pre-exposure prophylaxis, is medicine for people who do not have HIV but are at very high risk for getting it from sex or injection drug use.



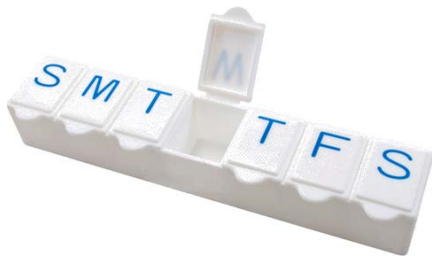
You must take PrEP every day for it to work. But there are several reasons people stop taking PrEP.

For example, if your risk of getting HIV infection becomes low because of changes in your life, you may want to stop taking PrEP. Remember, PrEP is only for people at very high risk for HIV.

For PrEP to be effective, you must:

- take PrEP every day
- be seen by a health care provider every 2-3 months

If you find you don't want to take a pill every day or often forget to take your pills, other ways of protecting yourself from HIV infection may work better for you.



If you have side effects from the medicine that are interfering with your life, or if blood tests show that your body is reacting to PrEP, you may need to stop taking it.

When taken every day, PrEP is safe and highly effective in preventing HIV infection.

For most people who are HIV-negative and have taken PrEP for years, no significant health effects have been seen.

Be sure to get answers to any questions you have about HIV/AIDS. Your public health department, health care provider, and public library can help.

