

HIV - Talk to your sexual partners - Sexual risks, part 5

It is important to tell your sexual partners about your HIV status. This is true whether you are casually dating or in a long-term relationship.

It's also important to talk about your partner's HIV status and if he or she has any sexually transmitted diseases, or STDs.



If you are HIV-positive and your partner is HIV-negative, there are sexual activities that you can do and still be safe.



Before having sex with any new partner, you should talk about your sexual history, drug-use history, and HIV status. You should both consider getting tested for HIV.

You and your partner should talk about what sexual behaviors and prevention practices you are going to have in your relationship. And you and your partner also need to talk honestly about other current and past sexual partners you each have or had.

If you are HIV-positive and your partner is HIV-negative, talk with them about taking pre-exposure prophylaxis or PrEP. PrEP is medicine to prevent HIV infection.

If you are HIV positive and think your HIV-negative partner may have possibly been exposed to HIV, such as having the condom break during sex, talk to them about PEP.

PEP or post-exposure prophylaxis is medicine to prevent HIV infection after a possible exposure. PEP must be taken within 72 hours after the possible exposure. Remember: open and honest talk helps keep **both** you and your partner healthy and free from new infections.

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.



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