

PRE-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS (PrEP) FOR HIV PREVENTION Health care provider

What is it:

- Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) is a way for an HIV-negative person at risk of HIV infection to reduce their risk.
- One form of PrEP involves taking the antiretroviral medication Tenofovir DF 300 mg/Emtricitabine 200 mg (brand name = Truvada) on a daily basis.
- Tenofovir/Emtricitabine (Truvada) for PrEP has been approved by Health Canada.

Dose:

- Tenofovir DF 300 mg/Emtricitabine 200 mg one tablet once daily.
- For PrEP to be effective, daily adherence is needed.

Cost:

- The cost of Tenofovir/Emtricitabine (Truvada) ranges from \$250-\$1000/month depending on the brand.
- Tenofovir/Emtricitabine (Truvada) for PrEP is NOT an eligible benefit under Manitoba Pharmacare, but may be an eligible benefit under some third party or private insurance companies.
- It is important to confirm that the third party or private insurance company provides coverage for Tenofovir/Emtricitabine (Truvada) when prescribed for the indication of PrEP (preventing HIV) versus treating HIV.
- The cost of Tenofovir/Emtricitabine (Truvada) is covered for people who have First Nations & Inuit Health Branch benefits.

Assessment and Monitoring:

- Before starting PrEP, a detailed assessment of risks and benefits should be completed by a health care provider. PrEP may be indicated for someone who is at high risk for HIV and who has no contraindications to the medication and is likely to adhere to the medication and to follow up.
- PrEP should be recommended together with other prevention strategies like condoms.
- There are potential side effects to the medication including renal toxicity.
- There are risks for developing drug resistance if a person becomes infected with HIV while taking PrEP. HIV/STI testing, urine and blood work monitoring should be done every three months.

Canadian guidelines for PrEP and nPEP are available at: <http://www.cmaj.ca/content/189/47/E1448>

Information for patients: http://bit.ly/PrEPFacts_CATIE

The Nine Circles STI Testing Program will assess and start patients on PrEP. If your patient is interested in starting PrEP, you may refer to our program. We will complete an eligibility assessment and provide initial follow up if the individual begins PrEP.

To refer, phone: 204-940-6000 or fax: 204-940-6003. Your patient can also walk in during our testing clinic Wednesdays from 1-7 pm at 705 Broadway Ave, or call to book an appointment.