

## **PRE-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS (PrEP) FOR HIV PREVENTION**

### **What is PrEP?**

- 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 anti-HIV 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.

### **How much does PrEP cost?**

- The cost of Tenofovir/Emtricitabine (Truvada) ranges from \$250-\$1000/month depending on the brand.
- This cost is NOT covered by Manitoba Pharmacare, but may be covered by some third party/private insurance companies.
- The cost is covered for people who have First Nations & Inuit Health Branch benefits.

### **How should PrEP be used or prescribed?**

- PrEP should be used together with other prevention strategies like condoms.
- Before starting PrEP, a detailed assessment of risks and benefits should be done by a health care provider.
- PrEP requires daily adherence to the medication and HIV/STI testing, urine and blood work monitoring every three months.
- There are potential side effects to the medication.
- There are risks for developing drug resistance if a person becomes infected with HIV while taking PrEP.

### **More Information on PrEP:**

For patients: [http://bit.ly/PrEPFacts\\_CATIE](http://bit.ly/PrEPFacts_CATIE)

For health care providers: <http://bit.ly/CdnPepPrepGuide>

**If you are interested in starting PrEP, talk to your primary care provider or come to Nine Circles and talk to one of our testing nurses. You can walk in during our testing clinic on Wednesdays from 1-7 pm at 705 Broadway, or call 204-940-6000 to book an appointment.**