

HIV & Meth:

Guide for Providers

- THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY 38,000 NEW HIV INFECTIONS EACH YEAR IN THE U.S. BETWEEN 2014-2018. THERE ARE BETWEEN 400-500 NEW INFECTIONS IN MISSOURI EACH YEAR.
- THE GREATEST IMPACT IS ON MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN, AFRICAN AMERICANS, LATINX, PEOPLE WHO INJECT DRUGS, AND TRANSGENDER INDIVIDUALS.
- REDUCING DRUG MISUSE AND DRUG-RELATED RISK BEHAVIORS, SUCH AS SHARING SYRINGES AND HIGH-RISK SEXUAL PRACTICES DECREASES THE RISK OF EXPOSURE TO HIV AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.
- AN UNDETECTABLE VIRAL LOAD MEANS THAT ANTIRETROVIRAL TREATMENT HAS REDUCED HIV TO SUCH SMALL QUANTITIES THAT IT CAN NO LONGER BE DETECTED BY STANDARD BLOOD TESTS.
- A PERSON TAKING HIV MEDICATIONS CONSISTENTLY AND REACHING AN UNDETECTABLE VIRAL LOAD HAS VIRTUALLY NO RISK TRANSMITTING THE VIRUS THROUGH SEX OR SHARING SYRINGES.
- REDUCING THE AMOUNT OF VIRUS IN THE BODY HELPS PREVENT TRANSMISSION FROM MOTHER TO CHILD DURING PREGNANCY, BIRTH, AND BREASTFEEDING.
- THE COMBINATION OF UNSAFE INJECTION PRACTICES AND HIGH-RISK SEXUAL ACTIVITY MAY RESULT IN INCREASED LIKELIHOOD OF CONTRACTING HIV AMONG PEOPLE WHO MISUSE METHAMPHETAMINE.
- SYRINGES USED FOR INJECTION DRUG USE MAY HAVE BLOOD IN THEM, AND BLOOD CAN CARRY HIV. HIV CAN SURVIVE IN A USED SYRINGE FOR UP TO 42 DAYS, DEPENDING ON TEMPERATURE AND OTHER FACTORS.

Medical and support services are available to those who qualify

The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program provides a comprehensive system of HIV primary medical care, essential support services, and medications for low-income people with HIV. To enroll in the Ryan White Program, an individual must:

- **BE DIAGNOSED WITH HIV OR AIDS**
- **BE AT OR BELOW 300% THE FEDERAL POVERTY LIMIT (> \$38,000 IN 2021)**
- **IF AN ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL HAS HEALTH INSURANCE:**
 - THE RYAN WHITE PROGRAM CAN PAY FOR AN INDIVIDUAL'S HEALTH INSURANCE, CO-PAYS/CO-INSURANCE, AND DEDUCTIBLES.
- **IF AN INDIVIDUAL IS UNINSURED:**
 - RYAN WHITE CAN PAY FOR THE COST OF HIV MEDICATIONS AND HIV MEDICAL CARE VISITS AS LONG AS THE INDIVIDUAL MEETS THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.
- **RYAN WHITE CASE MANAGERS ARE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST INDIVIDUALS WITH SERVICES THEY ARE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE, APPLY FOR HEALTH CARE COVERAGE, AND CONNECT INDIVIDUALS TO HIV MEDICAL CARE.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SERVICES COVERED BY RYAN WHITE PROGRAM FUNDING IN MISSOURI, VISIT:

[HEALTH.MO.GOV/LIVING/HEALTHCONDISEASES/COMMUNICABLE/HIVAIDS/CASEMGMT.PHP](https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/hivaids/casemgmt.php)

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- AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS USING METH SHOULD BE TESTED FOR HIV AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR. SEXUALLY ACTIVE MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN, GAY, AND BISEXUAL MEN MAY BENEFIT FROM MORE FREQUENT TESTING (FOR EXAMPLE, EVERY 3 TO 6 MONTHS). KNOWING YOUR PARTNERS HIV OR PREP STATUS AND PRACTICING SAFER SEX CAN HELP PREVENT TRANSMISSION OF HIV.
- FIND THE NEAREST TESTING SITE AT: [GETTESTED.CDC.GOV](https://gettested.cdc.gov)
- EVEN WITH AN UNDETECTABLE HIV STATUS, SHARING SYRINGES CAN LEAD TO THE SPREAD OF OTHER INFECTIONS INCLUDING HEPATITIS B AND HEPATITIS C.
- PEP (POST-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS) MEANS TAKING MEDICINE TO PREVENT HIV AFTER A POSSIBLE EXPOSURE. PEP SHOULD BE USED ONLY IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS AND MUST BE STARTED WITHIN 72 HOURS AFTER A RECENT POSSIBLE EXPOSURE TO HIV.
- MISSOURI PASSED RSMO 338.730 THAT ALLOWS A PHARMACIST TO DISPENSE PEP AS LONG AS THEY ARE FOLLOWING A WRITTEN PROTOCOL AUTHORIZED BY A LICENSED PHYSICIAN.
- PREP (PRE-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS) IS MEDICINE PEOPLE AT RISK FOR HIV TAKE TO HELP PREVENT GETTING HIV FROM SEX OR INJECTION DRUG USE. PREP IS UP TO 99% EFFECTIVE FOR SEXUAL TRANSMISSION (AFTER 7 DAYS OF CONSISTENT USE FOR RECEPTIVE ANAL INTERCOURSE AND AFTER 21 DAYS FOR RECEPTIVE VAGINAL INTERCOURSE), AND 74-84% EFFECTIVE FOR PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS.
- PREP IS AVAILABLE FOR FREE FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA (ADDITIONAL LAB FEES MAY APPLY):
 - LACK PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE
 - BE TESTED FOR HIV WITH A NEGATIVE RESULT
 - HAVE A PRESCRIPTION FOR PREP
- FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE MAY BE AVAILABLE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH HEALTH INSURANCE, LEARN MORE AT: [DOL.GOV/SITES/DOLGOV/FILES/EBSA/ABOUT-EBSA/OUR-ACTIVITIES/RESOURCE-CENTER/FAQS/ACA-PART-47.PDF](https://dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/EBSA/ABOUT-EBSA/OUR-ACTIVITIES/RESOURCE-CENTER/FAQS/ACA-PART-47.PDF)

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT GETTING PREP FOR FREE
FOR UNINSURED INDIVIDUALS VISIT:

health.mo.gov/hivprep

FIND LOCAL HIV CASE MANAGEMENT REGION AT:

<https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/hiv aids/pdf/case-management-map-contact-list.pdf>

For the Bureau of HIV, STD, and Hepatitis in Missouri, call:
(573) 751-6439

FOR RYAN WHITE RESOURCES
IN MISSOURI VISIT:

<https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/hiv aids/pdf/case-management-map-contact-list.pdf>

For more information about harm reduction and meth use visit:

[NoMoDeaths.org](https://nomodeaths.org)

For PrEP access for uninsured individuals visit:

www.getyourprep.com

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Missouri Department of
MENTAL HEALTH