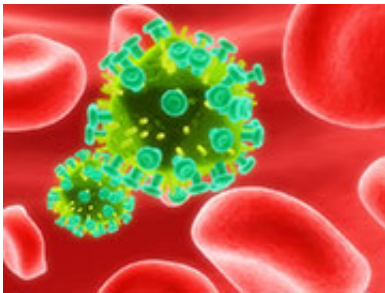


Daily PrEP prevents HIV infection in high-risk individuals

September 4 2015



(HealthDay)—None of 657 patients who took a daily pill to prevent HIV infection contracted the virus over a period of more than two years, according to a study from Kaiser Permanente of San Francisco. The findings, published online Sept. 1 in *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, dispel concerns that use of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) would lead to more HIV infections, *The New York Times* reported.

Gay men accounted for all but four of the patients who took the two-drug combination (emtricitabine and tenofovir [Truvada]), which was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in mid-2012. The patients were followed from then until February of this year, and 84 percent said they had multiple sexual partners during that time, *The Times* reported.

More than 40 percent did say they used fewer condoms and some were infected with other [sexually transmitted diseases](#) such as syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia as a result, but none contracted HIV. "This is very reassuring data," lead author Jonathan Volk, M.D., an epidemiologist at Kaiser Permanente of San Francisco, told *The Times*. "It tells us that PrEP works even in a high-risk population."

"This shows that the effectiveness of PrEP is really strikingly high," Anthony Fauci, M.D., director of the U.S. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, told *The Times*. "And this study takes it out of the realm of clinical trials and into the real world."

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Citation: Daily PrEP prevents HIV infection in high-risk individuals (2015, September 4)
retrieved 6 May 2024 from
<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2015-09-daily-prep-hiv-infection-high-risk.html>

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