

Where is PEP available?

In every hospital. This is because a potential HIV risk is an emergency. Go immediately to the accident and emergency department of the nearest hospital – even if you are abroad.

You can telephone the hospital at any time of the day or night to find out where you should go. We recommend that you obtain the advice of an infectiology specialist.

Visiting a hospital to receive PEP may be an unpleasant experience. You do not need to explain exactly what happened to anyone other than the specialist doctor. However, the more honest you are during the consultation, the more accurate your risk assessment will be.

If possible, your sexual partner should get tested for HIV. If there is a reliable negative result, you can discontinue the PEP treatment in consultation with a specialist. But do not wait for the test result. Begin PEP in all cases.

How long does PEP last?

Administration of PEP begins immediately after an HIV test and lasts 28 days. It should never be discontinued without first taking specialist advice. Your blood values will be monitored during the treatment. At the end of the treatment, you will be tested for HIV.

How much does PEP cost?

PEP is covered by your health insurance – even if you are a minor.

However, you will have to pay the annual deductible and the excess. Ask the specialist who is treating you for advice about the costs. There are possibilities to reduce the costs: You can request generic pharmaceuticals. You can undergo the tests for other STIs at a later date at a clinic with lower costs.

Obtain the emergency contact number from your health insurance provider before you go abroad.

What happens next?

Upon completing the PEP treatment, we recommend that you attend a consultation at a specialist unit such as a Checkpoint. At a specialist unit, you can clarify whether you want to adjust your protection strategy.



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PEEP



Act fast!
PEP emergency treatment for HIV is available after unprotected anal or vaginal sex. To be effective, the treatment must be provided within a matter of hours. drgay.ch/pep

Dr. Gay



CHECKPOINT

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What is PEP?

PEP stands for post-exposure prophylaxis and is a form of medical emergency treatment which can prevent a potential HIV infection after possible exposure. The treatment with medication runs for four weeks and is prescribed by a doctor. Medical monitoring is carried out to assess the risks and side effects.

Why is it necessary to take action immediately?



The sooner the PEP treatment begins, the more effective it will be. The chances of success start to fall as early as six to eight hours after possible exposure. After 48 hours, it will no longer make sense to begin PEP treatment. It is therefore vital to act quickly.

Do I require PEP?

This questionnaire does not substitute in any way for a consultation with a specialist. In specific cases, it may nevertheless be sensible to have PEP, or to decide not to have the treatment.

