

Have you heard of DoxyPEP?

Doxycycline Post-Exposure Prophylaxis, or “DoxyPEP,” is an antibiotic medication taken after sex to prevent bacterial sexually transmitted infections (STIs) like syphilis, chlamydia, and gonorrhea.

You can think of it as a “morning-after pill” for STIs.



DoxyPEP is a major step towards preventing STIs

A study following 500 cis men and trans women revealed that those who took DoxyPEP after sex had

65% fewer cases of some STIs compared to those who did not.

Source: Luetkemeyer et al. Postexposure Doxycycline to Prevent Bacterial Sexually Transmitted Infections. N Engl J Med 2023 Apr; 388:1296-1306



Last updated Oct. 2024

More specifically, though PrEP only prevents HIV, people on PrEP who took DoxyPEP 72 hours after sex had:


87%

less chance of getting syphilis


88%

less chance of getting chlamydia


55%

less chance of getting gonorrhea

Source: Luetkemeyer et al. Postexposure Doxycycline to Prevent Bacterial Sexually Transmitted Infections. N Engl J Med 2023 Apr; 388:1296-1306

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How do I take DoxyPEP?



After having condomless sex, specifically anal and oral sex.



Take two pills of DoxyPEP within 24 hours, no later than 72 hours, after sex.



Take with plenty of water and food if it upsets your stomach.



You can take DoxyPEP as often as every day but do not take more than two pills within 24 hours.

Source: CDC Clinical Guidelines on the Use of Doxycycline Postexposure Prophylaxis (2024)

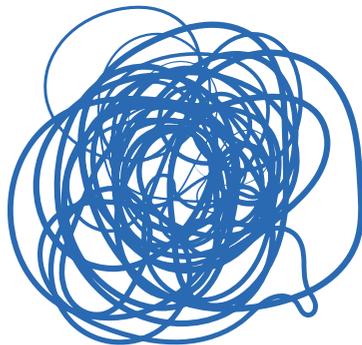
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What are potential benefits?



Reduces Stigma Around STIs

DoxyPEP can improve dialogue about sexual health and STIs with partners.



Reduces Anxiety

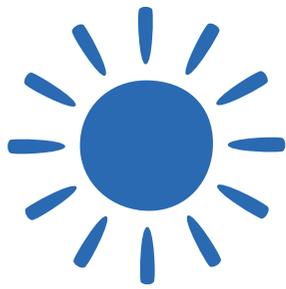
Knowing that DoxyPEP can prevent some STIs can reduce fears or stress.



Empowers Sexual Health Decisions

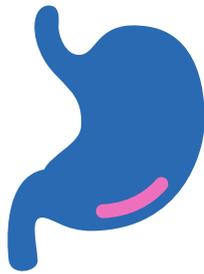
It can provide a greater sense of control over your sexual health.

What are potential side effects?



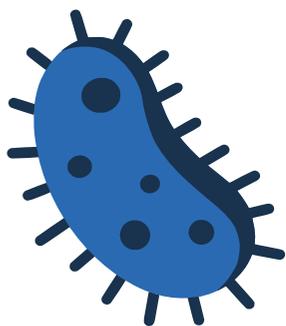
Sunlight Sensitivity

Sunscreen, limiting exposure to the sun, and avoiding tanning beds can prevent possible sunburns.



Acid Reflux or an Upset Stomach

Taking DoxyPEP with food may help reduce symptoms.



Changes in Microbiome

Like many antibiotic medications, DoxyPEP can disrupt the normal bacteria in your skin, stomach, and other body parts.

The ATN is learning more about how DoxyPEP can help young people take charge of their health.

CHOOSE

ATN 166: CHOOSE will examine how a package of mobile health tools can help young men learn about taking DoxyPEP, in addition to PrEP.



**foXXy
doxy**

ATN 173: foXXy doxy will test the effectiveness of DoxyPEP at reducing STI rates for women. DoxyPEP is currently only approved for use among men.