



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Region IV Public Health
Clark, Cowlitz, Skamania, Wahkiakum counties
and Cowlitz Tribe

Health Update

Please deliver a copy of the accompanying advisory to each provider in your organization. Questions regarding this advisory may be directed to the following Region IV health officers:

Alan Melnick, MD, MPH, CPH
Clark County Public Health, (360) 397-8412

Sarah D. Present MD, MPH
Skamania County Community Health, (509) 427-3850
Wahkiakum County Health & Human Services, (360) 795-8630

Jennifer Vines, MD, MPH
Cowlitz County Health & Human Services, (360) 414-5599

Please distribute

Categories of Health Alert messages:

Health Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: provides important information for specific incident for situation; may not require immediate action.

Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; no immediate action necessary.



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HEALTH UPDATE

December 4, 2014

TO: Physicians and Other Healthcare Providers

FROM: Alan Melnick, MD, MPH, CPH, Public Health Director/Health Officer
Sarah Present, MD, MPH, Health Officer
Jennifer Vines, MD, MPH, Health Officer
Andrew Root, MD, Infectious Disease

RE: HIV Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)

Please consider ordering PrEP with Tenofovir/emtricitabine (Truvada) for your patients who are HIV negative yet at substantial risk for becoming infected with HIV. Pre-exposure prophylaxis, or PrEP, is a prevention strategy for patients who are at high risk of becoming infected with HIV. The following resources can assist you in providing PrEP for your patients:

- The State of Washington Pre-exposure Drug Assistance Program (PrEP DAP) can help with insurance co-pays or to pay the entire cost for the medication for qualifying patients.
<http://www.doh.wa.gov/YouAndYourFamily/IllnessesandDisease/HIVAIDS/HIVCare-Clientservices/PrEPDAP>
- Clinical Consultation Center (CCC) PrEPline, call (855) 488-7737. The consultation telephone service is open 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. EST (8 a.m. – 3 p.m. PST).
- CDC website: Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)
<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/prevention/research/prep>
 - “Pre-exposure Prophylaxis for the Prevention of HIV Infection – 2014: A PHS Clinic Clinical Practice Guideline”
<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/PrEPguidelines2014.pdf>
 - “Pre-exposure Prophylaxis for the Prevention of HIV Infection – 2014: Clinical Providers’ Supplement”
<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/PrEPProviderSupplement2014.pdf>

For further information, please call Clark County Public Health HIV Prevention staff at (360) 397-8425 or (360) 397-8086. Staff can direct you to local HIV specialists for consultation if necessary. If you are accepting patients eligible for PrEP, please let us know so our staff may share this information with patients. In Cowlitz, Skamania and Wahkiakum County, please call the numbers listed below:

- Cowlitz County Health Department: (360) 414-5599
- Skamania County Community Health: (509) 427-3850
- Wahkiakum County Health and Human Services (360) 795-6207

Thank you for your partnership.