

Let us end AIDS now!



**What is
Non-occupational
Post-exposure
Prophylaxis
(nPEP)?**

 **Contact**

Your National AIDS Programme
Ministry of Health
Healthcare Provider

What is nPEP?

Non-occupational Postexposure Prophylaxis (nPEP) for HIV refers to the delivery of emergency antiretroviral therapy (ART) to persons who have experienced an exposure that represents a substantial risk for HIV transmission.

The medication must be provided within 72 hours of exposure to be effective and decrease the risk of acquiring HIV.

The rationale for nPEP is to decrease the risk for HIV transmission to an exposed individual.



Who qualifies for nPEP?

A **substantial risk** for HIV transmission is considered:

- Sexual exposure with condomless intercourse (receptive or insertive anal or vaginal), which is consensual or not
- Exposure to blood (or bodily fluids contaminated with blood) via broken skin

When the source has known HIV or is at high risk of having HIV (e.g. a man who has sex with men [MSM], injecting drug user, sex worker).

- **Someone who is screened within 72 hours of an exposure that constitutes a high risk for HIV transmission is eligible and should be considered for nPEP.**



Difference between PrEP and nPEP for MSM, transgender and sex workers

PrEP is given before an HIV exposure to prevent HIV infection, and the individual must be HIV negative to qualify for PrEP.

To qualify for nPEP after exposure to substantial risk for HIV, an individual must be HIV negative. nPEP should be started as soon as possible after exposure. This should not exceed 72 hours. If it exceeds 72 hours, then nPEP is not recommended.

Persons who repeatedly present for nPEP following sexual or injection drug use exposure or engage in behaviours that result in frequent, recurrent exposure to HIV that require the use of nPEP may be excellent candidates for PrEP.

Before transitioning from nPEP to PrEP, it is essential to ensure that the person remains HIV negative.

