

H.I.V.

Human Immunodeficiency Virus

The WHO PrEP Implementation Tool App for Health Workers
A pathway to prevention on your mobile phone.



Single Point Lesson

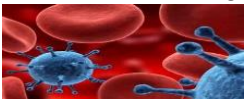
About HIV

- ❖ HIV attacks the immune system by destroying CD4 positive (CD4+) T cells, a type of white blood cell that is vital to fighting off infection. The destruction of these cells leaves people living with HIV vulnerable to other infections, diseases and other complications.
- ❖ HIV is spread through contact with the blood, semen, pre-seminal fluid, rectal fluids, vaginal fluids, or breast milk of a person with HIV.
- ❖ Antiretroviral therapy (ART) is the use of HIV medicines to treat HIV infection. People on ART take a combination of HIV medicines (called an [HIV regimen](#)) every day.
- ❖ ART can't cure HIV infection, but it can help people with HIV live longer, healthier lives.
- ❖ HIV medicines can also reduce the risk of transmission of HIV

Assessment of the risk of blood-borne virus (BBV) transmission

Average estimated seroconversion risks from published studies and reports are:

- ❖ 0.3 per cent for percutaneous exposure to HIV-infected blood⁸
- ❖ 0.1 per cent for mucocutaneous exposure to HIV-infected blood
- ❖ 0.5-1.8 per cent for percutaneous exposure to HCV-infected blood with detectable RNA^{9 10}
- ❖ 30 per cent for percutaneous exposure of a non-immune individual to HBsAg positive source.



Factors that may increase the risk, and influence management of the incident are:

- Percutaneous injury rather than mucous membrane or broken skin exposure
- Injury with a device from a source patient's artery or vein
- Blood exposure rather than exposure to blood-stained fluid, diluted blood (forexample in local anaesthetic solution) or other body fluid
- Injury from hollow bore rather than solid bore needle
- Injury from wide gauge rather than narrow gauge needle
- Deep rather than superficial injury¹¹
- Visible blood on the device
- No protective equipment used (like gloves, double gloves, eye protection)
- First aid measures not implemented (washing, bleeding)
- HCV RNA detectable in source patient on most recent blood test
- High viral load of HIV in source patient¹²
- HBsAg detectable in source patient blood
- Exposed person not, or inadequately, immunised against hepatitis B
- Source patient co-infected with more than one BBV.



Types of HIV test - There are 4 main types of HIV test:

Blood test – where a sample of blood is taken in a clinic and sent for testing in a laboratory. Results are usually available on the same day or within a few days

Point of care test – where a sample of saliva from your mouth or a small spot of blood from your finger is taken in a clinic. This sample doesn't need to be sent to a laboratory and the result is available within a few minutes

Home sampling kit – where you collect a saliva sample or small spot of blood at home and send it off in the post for testing. You'll be contacted by phone or text with your result in a few days. Visit [test.Hiv](#) to check if you're eligible for a free test. If not, you can buy them online or from some pharmacies

Home testing kit – where you collect a saliva sample or small spot of blood yourself and test it at home. The result is available within minutes. It's important to check that any test you buy has a CE quality assurance mark and is licensed for sale in the UK, as HIV self-tests available from overseas can be poor quality

The infection control team can be contacted if you require any additional advice/support on:
01744 457314