



DoxyPEP Fact Sheet

For Health Care Providers in
Santa Clara County



1

What is DoxyPEP?

DoxyPEP is like the morning after pill that helps prevent sexually transmitted infections (STIs)! Instead of preventing pregnancy within hours of unprotected sex, DoxyPEP can prevent STIs such as chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis.

2

Who can take DoxyPEP?

1. Recommend doxy-PEP for: Cisgender men and transgender women who are sexually active with cis male or trans female partners, have had condomless sex with more than one partner in the past year, and have had a bacterial STI in the past year.
2. Offer doxy-PEP after shared decision making for:
 - Cisgender men and transgender women, who have not had a bacterial STI in the past year, but have had condomless sex with more than one cis male or trans female partner in the past year.
 - Transgender men who have had condomless sex with more than one cis male or trans female partner in the past year. Current studies did not include this group; counsel patients about this.
3. Can consider doxy-PEP on a case-by-case basis after shared decision making for: Cisgender men who are sexually active only with cisgender women, but who have had condomless sex with more than one partner in the past year, and have had a bacterial STI (particularly syphilis) in the past year. Current studies did not include this group; counsel patients about this.

3

When should patients take DoxyPEP?

- Patients are advised to take 200mg of doxycycline within 24hrs but no later than 72hrs after condomless oral, anal or vaginal sex.
- Doxycycline can be taken every day depending on frequency of sexual activity.
- However, patients should not take more than 200mg within a 24hr period.

4

What should providers monitor?

- LFTs, renal function and CBC should be checked periodically in patients taking doxycycline for a prolonged period. Consider checking these laboratory parameters annually.
- Screen every three months for gonorrhea, and chlamydia at all anatomic sites of exposure, syphilis, and HIV.



DoxyPEP Fact Sheet

For Health Care Providers in
Santa Clara County



5 Patients should be counseled about the following:

1. Risks and serious side effects
2. After taking doxycycline, remain upright for 30 minutes after taking it to reduce pill esophagitis.
3. Doxycycline should be avoided during pregnancy. Patients who could get pregnant should be counseled to stop doxycycline if they become pregnant.
4. Although doxycycline is generally well-tolerated, there is a risk of sun sensitivity. Patients should be counseled to wear sunscreen and/ or avoid prolonged sun exposure while taking doxycycline.

6 Offer comprehensive sexual health services for those being offered DoxyPEP:

- PrEP: Offer all options of HIV PrEP (if they are not living with HIV or are not on it already.) such as the daily pill, 2-1-1 PrEP, and injectable PrEP.
- Vaccinations: Vaccinations should be offered for eligible individuals. These vaccinations could include: mpox, Meningococcal, Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, and HPV vaccines.
- HIV Linkage to care: Link HIV patients to care to ensure that they are virally suppressed.
- Harm reduction and medication assisted treatment services: Those individuals who have concomitant substance use disorder should be referred to harm reduction services and medication assisted treatment programs.

7 Where can I access detailed DoxyPEP guidance?

To access our detailed guidance, please visit our website at:

[Sexually Transmitted Infections - Public Health Providers - County of Santa Clara \(sccgov.org\)](https://www.sccgov.org/public-health/prevention-and-control/sexually-transmitted-infections).

8 Who can I contact for more information?

For additional assistance, you can contact the Sexual Health and Harm Reduction Program at the County of Santa Clara Public Health Department at 408-792-3720 or email GettingtoZeroSCC@phd.sccgov.org.