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DOH-PINELLAS JOINS EFFORT TO REDUCE NEW HIV CASES WITH MEDICATION



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The Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County (DOH-Pinellas) takes part in Zero Pinellas, a community partnership to reduce new HIV cases. It also works with the agencies in the Pinellas Planning Partnership to provide testing and resources for HIV-positive people.

DOH-Pinellas is also providing an important weapon in the fight against new HIV cases at the

St. Petersburg clinic, 205 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St. N., and the Mid-County clinic, 8751 Ulmerton Rd., Largo. It's called **PrEP**.

An infographic with an orange header and a grey body. The header contains the text "Not enough health care providers know about PrEP." followed by a sub-header: "Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) is a medicine taken daily that can be used to prevent HIV infection. PrEP is for people without HIV who are at very high risk for acquiring it from sex or injection drug use." The body features three circular icons: a pill, a syringe, and a person. Below each icon is a statistic: "90% Daily PrEP can reduce the risk of sexually acquired HIV by more than 90%.", "70% Daily PrEP can reduce the risk of HIV infection among people who inject drugs by more than 70%.", and "1 in 3 primary care doctors and nurses haven't heard about PrEP." At the bottom, it includes the "Vital signs CDC" logo and the CDC logo. The source is cited as "SOURCE: CDC Vital Signs, Dec. 2015."/>

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SOURCE: CDC Vital Signs, Dec. 2015.

Vital signs^{CDC}
www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/HIVPrEP

CDC

What is **PrEP**? It's short for "Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis," a drug treatment to reduce cases of HIV/AIDS. Those at risk of developing HIV take medication that cuts their chances of getting HIV by 90 percent. PrEP candidates are HIV-negative people at risk of developing HIV. They agree to take a daily pill called Truvada. Every three months, PrEP clients receive a new supply of the medication. Truvada is used with other safe-sex strategies such as condoms to be effective.

"PrEP is a big step toward reducing new cases of HIV," said DOH-Pinellas Director Dr. Ulyee Choe. "Along with PrEP, we are continuing to promote safe sex and regular screenings to reduce HIV rates."

Go to <http://pinellas.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/infectious-disease-services/prep-basics/index.html> for information about PrEP at DOH-Pinellas. To find HIV testing sites throughout the state, go to <https://flhiv.doh.state.fl.us/ClinicSearch/ClinicSearch.aspx>.

For information about DOH-Pinellas, go to www.PinellasHealth.com and follow us on Twitter @HealthyPinellas.

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