

A man and a woman are lying in bed, covered by a white sheet. Only their heads and eyes are visible above the sheet. The woman is on the left, with long brown hair, and the man is on the right, with short brown hair. They are both looking directly at the camera.

# THE FACTS ABOUT **HIV**

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## BENEATH THE SHEETS

A [GETSTDTESTED.COM](https://www.getstdtested.com) GUIDE

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## THE FACTS ABOUT HIV

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### HIV IS AN INCURABLE STD THAT AFFECTS OVER 1 MILLION AMERICANS

The CDC estimates that 1.2 million Americans are living with HIV—the virus that causes AIDS. 1 in 5 are unaware of their condition. The CDC approximates that there are 50,000 new HIV infections every year. Men who have sex with men and African Americans are the populations most heavily-burdened with HIV in the United States.

While great strides have been made in recent years in fighting the global spread of HIV as well as in its treatment, it still remains an active, incurable threat to Americans everywhere.

### WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS?

Flu-like symptoms, including rapid weight loss, dry cough, fever, headache, night sweats, fatigue, swollen lymph nodes, soreness, and diarrhea may occur within a month or two after the infection. The symptoms can be mild enough to go unnoticed or confused with the flu, which is why regular screening for all sexually active people is recommended by the CDC.

A person with HIV is infectious whether or not any symptoms are present.

### IT GETS COMPLICATED

Untreated HIV can become AIDS within 10 years. The immune system of a person with becomes so severely compromised that a common infection, such as the flu or pneumonia, can be lethal.

It is imperative to get treated early to help stave off the HIV to AIDS progression.

### HOW DO YOU TREAT IT?

Get tested regularly! Since HIV symptoms don't always appear or can go unnoticed, it's important that you get tested regularly—especially if you have a new sexual partner. An HIV test can be administered by your local health care provider or by a private STD testing service, such as [getSTDtested.com](https://getSTDtested.com). Results from [getSTDtested.com](https://getSTDtested.com) are completely private and hospital-accurate.

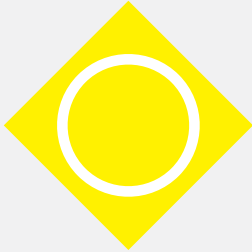
There is no cure for HIV, but there are medications to help people with HIV manage the disease and live longer, more productive lives. If you test with [getSTDtested.com](https://getSTDtested.com), our staff of in-house physicians can direct you to the appropriate treatment options.

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## REDUCE YOUR RISK OF CATCHING AND SPREADING HIV

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prevent



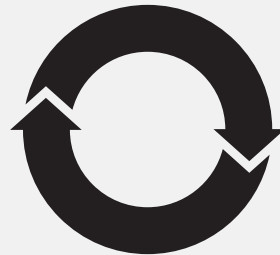
test



treat



repeat



### PREVENT

Latex condoms can greatly reduce the risk of HIV. Always use protection, especially with a new partner.

### TEST

If you are sexually active, test regularly. HIV can show no symptoms. An HIV test is available through your local health care provider or through [getSTDtested.com](http://getSTDtested.com).

### TREAT

If you are infected, seek treatment immediately. There is no cure for HIV, however, antiviral medications can help people with HIV manage their condition indefinitely and lead longer lives.

### REPEAT

Make safe sex and STD testing regular habits. Even if you are in a committed relationship, it doesn't hurt to get tested annually—you never know!



getSTDtested.com provides private,  
hospital-accurate STD testing.

We offer in-home and same-day local lab  
testing at over 4,000 nationwide locations.

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**4.5/5 STAR CUSTOMER RATING**