

WHAT ARE THE CAUSES OF HIV INFECTIONS

HIV is caused by a virus.

To become infected with HIV, infected blood, semen or vaginal secretions must enter your body

This can happen in several way.

It can be transmitted by coming into direct contact with :

- By having sex
- Drug use
- The the body fluids of an infected person
- This includes semen
- Vaginal and anal fluids
- The blood
- Transmission from mother to baby during pregnancy, birth or breastfeeding
- Semen (cum) and pre-seminal fluid
- Kissing
- Touching
- Sharing anything with a HIV positive person

And will be dependent on many things, such as whether you receive or give oral sex and the oral of the person giving the oral sex.

And the most common way of getting HIV is through having anal or vaginal sex.

HIV can be transmitted through sweat, urine or saliva.

It's a fragile virus and does not survive outside the body for long.

The HIV in these fluids must get into the bloodstream of an HIV-negative person through a mucous membrane (found in the rectum, vagina, mouth, or tip of the penis); open cuts or mouth sores; or by direct injection.

The virus can also enter your body through small tears that sometimes develop in the rectum or vagina during sexual activity.

drug paraphernalia puts you at high risk of HIV and other infectious diseases, such as hepatitis.

Or from blood transfusions.

The risk is high in ther upper-middle-income countries and low-income countries.