

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF HIV INFECTIONS

The symptoms of HIV and AIDS vary, depending on the phase of infection.

Primary infection (Acute HIV)

Some people infected by HIV develop a flu-like illness within 2 to 4 weeks

Most people experience a short flu-like illness 2 to 6 weeks after HIV infection after the virus enters the body which lasts for a week or 2.

After these symptoms disappear, HIV may not cause any symptoms for many years, although the virus continues to damage your immune system.

This means many people with HIV do not know they're infected as they're at particularly high risk

This illness, known as primary (acute) HIV infection, has

Possible signs and symptoms include:

- Fever
- Headache
- Muscle aches and joint pain
- Rash
- Sore throat and painful mouth sores
- Swollen lymph glands, mainly on the neck
- Diarrhea
- Weight loss
- Cough
- Night sweats
- Persistent, unexplained fatigue
- Swollen lymph glands
- Oral yeast infection (thrush)
- Shingles (herpes zoster)
- Pneumonia
- Progression to AIDS
- Sweats
- Chills
- Persistent white spots or unusual lesions on your tongue or in your mouth
- Weakness
- Weight loss

These symptoms can be so mild that you might not even notice them. However, the amount of virus in your bloodstream is quite high at this time. As a result, the infection spreads more easily during primary infection than during the next stage.

Clinical latent infection (Chronic HIV)

In this stage of infection, HIV is still present in the body and in white blood cells. However, many people may not have any symptoms or infections during this time.

This stage can last for many years.

Some people develop more severe disease much sooner.