

# About DoxyPEP



## **What is DoxyPEP?**

DoxyPEP is an antibiotic taken after sex to prevent getting an STI (Sexually Transmitted Infection). It helps stop the chance of getting certain kinds of infections caused by bacteria, such as chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis. It doesn't work against infections caused by viruses, like herpes, HPV, or HIV.

## **Who is DoxyPEP for?**

DoxyPEP is for people assigned male at birth who have sex without using condoms with other men and/or transgender people, whether they've had a bacterial STI in the last year or not.

## **Why would someone take DoxyPEP?**

People take DoxyPEP to avoid getting STIs. Some people might judge others for taking medicine to stay healthy, but don't listen to them! It's important to take care of your own health and prevent infections when you can, especially if you are sexually active.

## When and how should someone take DoxyPEP?

- DoxyPEP works best if taken within 24 hours of having sex without a condom, and no later than 72 hours after. The dose is 200mg of doxycycline. Remember not to have dairy, calcium, antacids, or multivitamins for 2 hours before taking it.
- You might need to take DoxyPEP every day if you have sex often.

## What should medical providers monitor?

Your doctor should keep an eye on your liver, kidney, and blood counts if you're taking DoxyPEP.

## Where can I get DoxyPEP and learn more about it?

You can ask your primary care doctor about it. You can also visit an Infectious Disease provider at MetroHealth, a Pride provider, or the Cleveland Department of Public Health.

## Things to keep in mind:

- Keep getting tested for STIs every 3 months, even if you feel fine. Sometimes, symptoms do not show right away.
- DoxyPEP doesn't protect against viral STIs like HIV or HPV, or MPOX.

## Appointments

For more information, contact your primary care provider or call a MetroHealth Infectious Disease specialist at 216-778-8305.

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