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Division of Infectious Disease and Epidemiology Health Advisory

Date: Sept. 5, 2012
To: Primary Care Physicians
From: Division of Infectious Disease & Epidemiology
Re: **HEALTH Supplemental Guidance on HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)**

Please be advised and share with your colleagues this important information:

Last month, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released an [Interim Guidance for Clinicians on HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis \(PrEP\)](#). While it is extremely important to note that PrEP should be delivered as part of a comprehensive package of prevention services, including HIV testing, discussing sexual health to reduce risk behavior, access to condoms, and management of other sexually transmitted infections, PrEP offers an additional prevention tool.

HEALTH recommendations:

- Identify adult men who have sex with men (MSM) and heterosexually-active men and women who are eligible for PrEP.
- Consult the CDC's fact sheet [PrEP: A New Tool for HIV Prevention](#) and [interim guidelines for clinicians](#).
- Consider pre-exposure prophylaxis for those at high risk for HIV acquisition through sex:
 - People with partners who have known HIV infections
 - People who have frequent unprotected sex and abuse drugs and/or alcohol
 - People who have sex in exchange for money
 - People with frequent sexually transmitted diseases
- For higher risk patients as described above who receive PrEP, test each person for HIV at baseline, and repeat testing every two to three months.

***Related links:**

Interim Guidance: Preexposure Prophylaxis for the Prevention of HIV Infection in Men Who Have Sex with Men (Jan. 28, 2011):

<http://www.cdc.gov/Mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6003a1.htm>

Interim Guidance for Clinicians on HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis, PrEP (Aug. 12, 2012):

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6131a2.htm?s_cid=mm6131a2_e

CDC PrEP Fact Sheet:

<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/prep/pdf/PrEPfactsheet.pdf>