Sexual Health @ MU
SHealth.missouri.edu
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HIV/AIDS Info
HIV is the Human Immunodeficiency Virus. The virus can be transmitted in several ways, primarily sexually, and can lead to Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome or AIDS if certain clinical criterion are met. AIDS is a diagnosis that involves measuring a person’s viral load in combination with the number of CD4 cells or white blood cells.

It is extremely important for sexually active individuals to get tested and be aware of their STI status so they can take the necessary precautions.

AIDS can make infected individuals extremely susceptible to many different diseases and some cancers.

There are potential complications involved with leaving an HIV infection untreated, such as kidney and liver diseases, even death.

Since the emergence of AIDS in the late 1970s, more than 60 million people have become infected with HIV; nearly 30 million have died from AIDS-related causes. While this is considered a worldwide epidemic, these numbers have steadily declined annually. Primarily this is due to a large push for global prevention — and prevention starts with education.

HIV is transmitted through the exchange of body fluids such as blood, semen, vaginal fluids or breast milk with an infected individual. This typically occurs through sexual contact, sharing needles or other drug injecting equipment. You can protect yourself from infection by using a barrier method during sexual contact, or a latex condom, female condom for vaginal or anal intercourse, dam or remaining abstinent. Use of alcohol or other drugs can impact decision-making as well.

However, it is always important for you to be aware of your status, and it is suggested that you get tested every 3-6 months if you are sexually active.

What Is World AIDS Day?
World AIDS Day is celebrated every December 1st around the world. Since 1988, this day was established to remember those affected by HIV/AIDS and to educate others about the disease. Education includes teaching about methods of prevention, reduce the stigmas associated with a HIV infection, and to show support for those affected by HIV/AIDS. Throughout the years a red ribbon has come to symbolize the cause. This visual reminder demonstrates support for those affected, raising awareness and ending this epidemic.

Literature:

1. An excursion with your BFF to get tested and know your STI status to reduce STI stigma.
2. The collaboration among SHAPE, MU Women’s Center, LGBTQ Resource Centre, Boone County Health Department and Rainbow of Central Missouri to facilitate confidential HIV testing twice a month.

It is bad that people are dying of AIDS, but no one should die of ignorance.
~ Elizabeth Taylor
Actress

97 percent of those living with HIV reside in low- and middle-income countries.

World AIDS Day 2012 at Mizzou
This year, SHAPE is hosting a World AIDS Day event on Wednesday, December 5th. There will be information tabling about reducing the stigma, people living with HIV/AIDS, medical advances and prevention.

Not only is this event a great source of information, but there will also be hands-on activities. There will also be FREE STI testing, T-shirts and tons of safety products throughout the day at the Student Center in Rm 2206.

Come join us as we celebrate World AIDS Day 2012.

UPCOMING EVENTS
Dec. 5
World AIDS Day • 10AM-2PM
Location: 2206 Student Center

Dec. 7
Reading Day • No Class

Dec. 14
Semester Ends/Commencement

97% of those living with HIV

from Stankowski Field

(651): hey wht r u doin? free stuff @ the SC 4 world AIDS day.
(417): T-shirts?
(651): yeah + testing & prevention info & safety products! SHAPE is cool 2.
(417): I’m all about the FREE stuff. Cya there!

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