



Principle

- Preventing bacterial sexually transmitted infections (STIs) after potential exposure through the use of doxycycline as post-exposure treatment (PET).
- PET is an integral part of a **diversified prevention strategy**

Objectives

- Prevent acute episodes of bacterial STIs and associated complications
- Reduce the risk of transmission
- Lower the incidence of bacterial STIs

Targeted bacteria

- Two bacteria: ***Chlamydia trachomatis*** and ***Treponema pallidum*** (syphilis), for which no acquired resistance to doxycycline has been reported
- Doxycycline has limited effectiveness against *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* due to high resistance rates (>90% of strains).

Indications

MSM*	Not recommended but may remain an option in a shared decision-making process with the patient in cases of high risk for bacterial STIs. This applies to individuals who, in the last 12 months, have had:
Transsexual woman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual intercourse with ≥ 2 cisgender male or transgender female partners, • And at least two episodes of bacterial STIs.
Transsexual man	Not recommended
Cisgender woman	
Heterosexual man	

*Men who have sex with men

Terms and conditions

- **Doxycycline orally 200 mg as a single dose**, taken as soon as possible after risky sexual intercourse and no later than 72 hours afterward. Do not exceed 3 doses per week.
- Main contraindications: pregnancy from the 2nd trimester, allergy to tetracyclines, concomitant treatment with retinoids or vitamin A derivatives. Other considerations: Avoid taking doxycycline with other medications (allow >2 hours between doses). Remain upright for at least 30 minutes after taking doxycycline to prevent esophageal irritation.
- Main side effects: skin rash, candidiasis, esophageal ulcer

Associated preventive measures

Doxycycline PET is part of a **combined prevention strategy**, which includes:

- Risk reduction counseling,
- Use of protective measures: condoms...
- Vaccinations: against STIs as recommended (hepatitis A, hepatitis B, papillomavirus)
- HIV prevention: PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) if eligible
- Monitoring: STI screening every 3 months AND treatment of all diagnosed STIs