



## 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

<b>MSM*</b>	<b>Not recommended but may remain an option in a shared decision-making process with the patient</b> in cases of high risk for bacterial STIs. This applies to individuals who, in the last 12 months, have had:
<b>Transsexual woman</b>	
<b>Transsexual man</b>	Not recommended
<b>Cisgender woman</b>	
<b>Heterosexual man</b>	

\*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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

