



Integrating Doxy PEP Into Prevention Navigation Programs:

Guidance for Navigators & DIS

Gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (GBMSM) and transgender people experience higher rates of STIs than other populations, and the disparities are even larger for GBMSM and trans people of color. As an effective new prevention tool for cisgender GBMSM and transgender women, doxycycline as STI PEP has the potential to lessen health disparities. However, lessons learned from the introduction of PrEP for HIV and Jynneos as the Mpox vaccine demonstrate that an effective introduction of doxycycline as STI PEP will require careful attention to health equity. **Proactively informing people rather than waiting for patients to request this new intervention can facilitate more equitable distribution.**

Use this guidance document to develop strategies for implementing doxy PEP into your Prevention Navigation programs, including syndemic navigation and partner services provided by DIS.

Criteria for Offering Doxycycline as STI PrEP

It is important to develop criteria for who you will be proactively offering support in accessing doxycycline as PEP. Based on CDC guidance, focusing efforts on reaching gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (GBMSM) and transgender people will have the most significant impact in reducing the rate of STIs in those populations. In Washington, disparities in rates of chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis exist among Black non-Hispanic and Hispanic/Latina/o/x relative to White non-Hispanic individuals. This means it is important to address these disparities in prioritizing doxy PEP access among GBMSM and trans people of color. In collaboration with your integrated testing programs, you can also prioritize those testing positive for syphilis or a bacterial STI as high priority for doxy PEP education and outreach.

Reducing Restrictions Based On Eligibility Criteria

Excessive restrictions may impact doxy PEP from reaching those who may benefit most from the intervention. Identify providers willing to prescribe doxy PEP in your local area, navigating provider availability to access a doxycycline prescription, and coordinate with insurance companies to cover medical costs associated with doxy PEP, and address any additional barriers to accessing doxy PEP. As navigators and DIS, it is important that we support clients in overcoming barriers to access and this may entail working through restrictions imposed by our healthcare systems including providers and pharmacists. [Doxycycline Postexposure Prophylaxis \(doxy PEP\) | Washington State Department of Health](#) offers a number of FAQ resources for providers that can help to educate and inform about doxy PEP as an STI

DOH 150-320 May 2025 To request this document in another format, call 1-800-525-0127. Deaf or hard of hearing customers, please call 711 (Washington Relay) or email doh.information@doh.wa.gov.

prevention intervention.

Proactively Inform Clients about Doxy PEP

As a relatively new STI reduction intervention, some clients may be aware of doxy PEP and others may know very little. **Proactively inform people rather than waiting for patients to request this new intervention can facilitate more equitable distribution.** Supporting GBMSM and transgender people will have the most significant impact in reducing STI rates- particularly those testing positive for syphilis or a bacterial STI has high priority for doxy PEP. It is also important to address disparities by prioritizing doxy PEP access among GBMSM and transgender people of color

Engage Community

It is important to developing partnerships and trust with other agencies in your region. Develop strategies for engaging community partners. Consider hosting listening sessions or community education opportunities for people to learn more about doxy PEP. Who is already doing doxy PEP work in your community? Who do you know is prescribing doxy PEP? Who could be the doxy PEP „champions“ in your community? These can include both providers and community members. Get feedback on your implementation guidelines, community facing materials, or messaging about doxy PEP.

Washington DOH is still developing lists of doxy PEP providers and champions across the state. As you identify and build partnerships in your local jurisdictions, we would love to hear from you! Email michael.barnes@doh.wa.gov with information you learn about doxy PEP in your jurisdiction.

Social Media Draft Language

Doxycycline has been around for a long time, but recent studies have found that it can help prevent bacterial STIs in people assigned male at birth when taken within 72 hours of sexual contact. [Agency Name] is excited to support you in accessing this new intervention! [Insert contact info]

[Agency Name] is proud to support access to a new tool to help prevent bacterial STIs: Doxycycline as STI PEP. Think you may need it? Give us a call today! [Insert contact info]

Do you know or think you may have been exposed to an STI? Its never too late to take charge of your sexual health! Talk to one of our navigators and see if doxy as STI PEP is right for you. [Insert contact info]

Doxycycline as STI PEP is a new use for an existing medication, and [Agency Name] is available to support you in accessing this new preventative step to help manage STIs. Learn more: [Insert contact info]

Doxycycline has often been used to treat acne, UTIs, and other infections and to prevent malaria. Did you know it can also prevent some STIs after sexual contact? Learn more: [Insert contact info]