

What is HIV?

HIV stands for Human Immunodeficiency Virus.

It is generally believed to cause AIDS.

It can reside in the human body for many years without symptoms.

It gradually weakens the body's ability to fight off many diseases.

What is AIDS?

AIDS stands for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

It is the most serious stage of HIV infection.

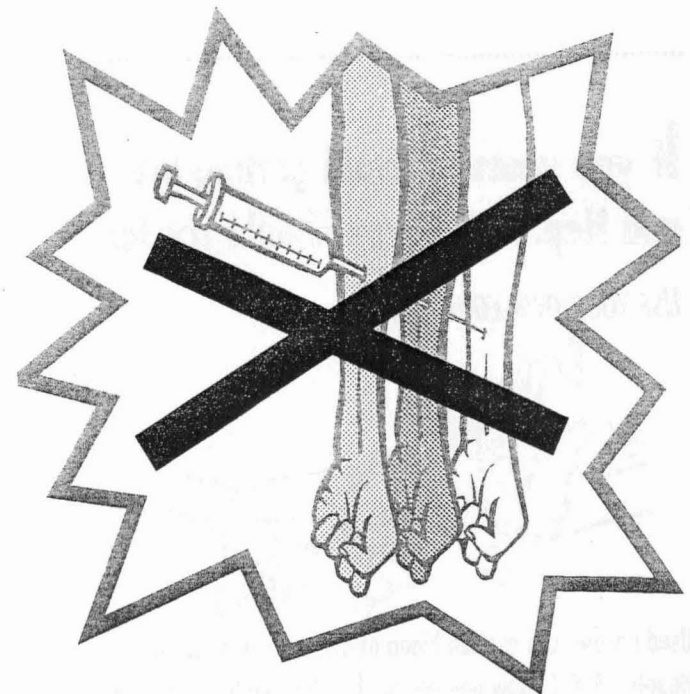
The infected person's immune system is very much damaged.

Many life-threatening diseases such as TB or PCP, can occur in this period.

Remember:

- HIV/AIDS is a serious health issue and so are Hep. B & C, and other STDs.
- There is no physical sign or symptom for HIV infection. Only a blood test can tell.
- Prevention is the best means to avoid getting HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis B & C, and other STDs.
- Drugs can take over your life if you don't control it.
- There is no "quick fix" for addiction.
- It is healthy to reduce risk of HIV and Hep. B & C by modifying your drug use behaviour.
- You can help a friend by passing on this information.
- If you tell people the above, you have already made a contribution to society.

HIV/AIDS AND INJECTION DRUG USE



AIDS Helpline and Other Information Services

Asian Society for the Intervention of AIDS
(ASIA) (HIV/AIDS service in some Asian languages) 669-5567
BC Ministry of Health (HIV/AIDS & STDs service, needle exchange) . . 660-6161
Alcohol/Drug Information & referral line 660-9382
BC Ministry of Health (HIV/AIDS service) 687-2437
..... TTY/TDD .. 893-2215
DEYAS (needle exchange) 685-6561

Asian Society for the Intervention of AIDS (ASIA)
#507-1033 Davie Street Vancouver, BC V6E 1M7
Tel: 604/ 669-5567 Fax: 604/ 669-7756
E-mail: asia@mindlink.bc.ca

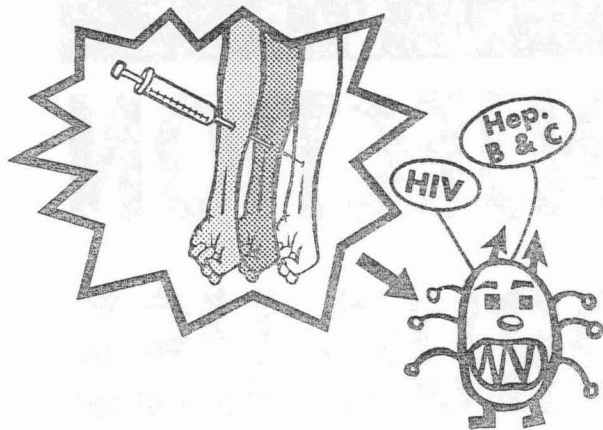
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Design & illustrations: Lohus Miyashita

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A project of
Asian Society for the Intervention of AIDS

Sharing needles, water, or works can lead to infection with HIV and Hepatitis B & C.



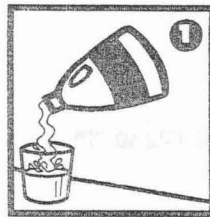
If you want to avoid getting HIV and Hep. B & C, you should try to:

USE YOUR OWN EQUIPMENT.

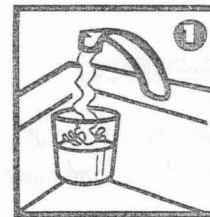


Used needles can contain blood of others having HIV and Hepatitis B & C. New needles can be obtained for free from the Needle Exchange Program of DEYAS and many STD clinics. They can also be purchased from most pharmacies.

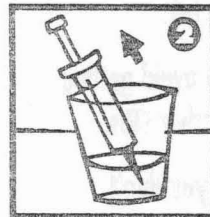
CLEAN YOUR NEEDLES as follows:



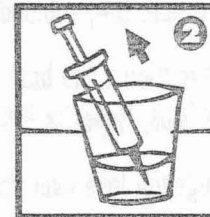
Use bleach three times.



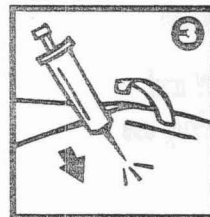
Use water.



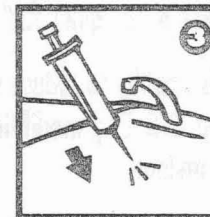
Fill syringe.



Fill syringe.



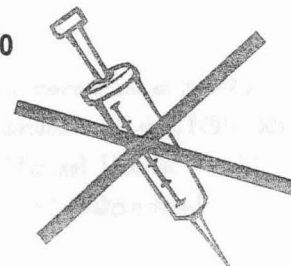
Empty syringe.



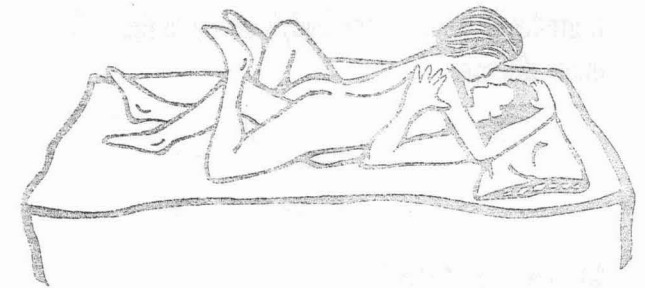
Empty syringe.

Keep the bleach in the needle for at least 30 seconds each time and rinse with clean water until you can't smell the bleach.

Or you may want to consider **STAYING AWAY FROM INJECTING** drugs.



You can also get HIV, Hepatitis B & C, and other Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) by having unprotected sex.



Therefore **PRACTISE SAFER SEX** by using latex condoms with water-based lubricants correctly whenever you have vaginal or anal sex.

