# HIV & AIDS

Presented by Shanti Orange County







Should **you**? Why? Why not?

#### Myth or Fact? HIV/AIDS only affects gay men.



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#### Myth....

Anyone who engages in unprotected sex or shares injection drug "works" (needles, syringes, etc.) can be infected with HIV, regardless of age, sex, gender, race, or sexual orientation.

#### Myth or Fact? HIV/AIDS is curable.



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#### Myth.....

There is NO CURE for HIV infection at this time. However, there are many medications, called antiretroviral (ART), available for people living with HIV to help manage the infection.

#### Myth or Fact?

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#### Myth.....

HIV treatment and care is a life-long commitment with social, emotional, and physical ramifications.

### What is HIV? Human Immunodeficiency Virus

- Virus your body cannot get rid of
- Weakens your body's immune system
- Replicates very quickly if left untreated
- HIV has no gender, race, or sexual preference

### What is AIDS? Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

- Medical Diagnosis
- Advanced HIV infection
- Severely damaged immune system
- May require medical intervention
- Not everyone with HIV will advance to AIDS





- 50,000 new cases of HIV each year in the US
- Over 300 new cases each year in Orange County
- As of December 31, 2015 there were 7,088 individuals living with HIV in Orange County





# **Global Statistics**

- **36.7** million people are living with HIV/AIDS
- Of these, only about 60% know they are infected
- More than **35** million have died of AIDS worldwide since the first cases were reported in 1981
- **1.1 million** died in 2015 alone.
- 2.1 million new cases of HIV in 2015

# How does HIV work?



HIV attacks and destroys CD4 Cells (T Cells) that help fight off infection, weakening your body's immune system.

# How is HIV spread?

- Contact with infected body fluids:
  - o Blood
  - o Semen
  - o Pre-seminal fluid
  - o Vaginal fluid
  - o Breast milk



- Unprotected oral, vaginal, or anal sex
- Sharing injection drug equipment
- From mother to child during pregnancy, birth, or breastfeeding



# **HIV Symptoms**

| Stage  | Time Frame                     | Symptoms   |
|--------|--------------------------------|--|
| Early  | 2 – 6 weeks after<br>infection | Flu-like symptoms  |
| Latent | 8-10 years after infection     | No symptoms, but<br>virus is active and<br>easy to pass on to<br>others                |
| Late   | 10 + years after infection     | Active AIDS, rapid<br>decline in health,<br>prone to multiple<br>infections or cancers |

Symptoms vary from person to person and some people do not show any initial symptoms.



- 1 out of 8 people with HIV do not know they have it
- Testing is anonymous and free at many sites
- Results within 20 minutes
- Two kinds of tests: blood and saliva
- Getting tested is the only way to know if you are infected

### **HIV Treatment**

- ART Antiretroviral Treatment
- Medicines have advanced greatly since 1980's
- Treatment is a life-long commitment
- Treatment as Prevention
  - HIV + people who are on ART therapy can achieve undetectable amounts of HIV Virus in their blood
  - 96% or better chance that they will NOT transmit it to others if they remain on treatment



### HIV and STDs

- Treatment for HIV does NOT prevent STD's
- STDs are much more common than we think
- Some STD's have no signs or symptoms, esp for men
- Having an STD does not mean you have HIV/AIDS
- Frequent testing for STD's is very important, even if you are on ART therapy!



#### Sexually Transmitted Infections

Estimated New cases in the US

104,000

#### Viral

- HIV **50,000**
- Herpes Simplex 2 300,000 +
- Hepatitis A 2,800
- Hepatitis B 47,000
- Hepatitis C
- HPV 6.2 million

#### Bacterial

- •Chlamydia 1.4 million
- •Gonorrhea **350,062**
- •Syphilis **19,999**

### YOU CAN'T ALWAYS TELL IF YOU HAVE AN STD GET TESTED!



#### What does a person with HIV look like?



Stigma.....



### Stigma can lead to....



- Violence
- Fear
  - o Getting tested
  - o Getting medical treatment
  - o Telling friends, family, partners
  - o Negotiating safe sex
- Lack of Medical Care
- Discrimination
- Increased spread of HIV

### **HIV & STD Prevention**

- GET TESTED!
- Know your status and know your partner's status
- Have Safe Sex Use Condoms/Barriers
- Do not share injection drug works participate in needle exchange programs
- Think smart if considering tattoos
- "Open sores are open doors" for HIV to enter/exit the body
- Get tested regularly talk to your health care provider
- Consider **PrEP** if you are at risk
- Knowledge is power





Let's Talk Healthy Relationships Knowledge + Action = Power

# **HIV Prevention and PrEP**

(Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis)

- New drug therapy for people at high risk of HIV infection
  - o HIV negative partner of HIV positive person
  - o IDU who shares needles or syringes
  - o MSM or multiple sex partners
  - o Sex Trade Workers
- Daily pill = daily commitment
- Does not prevent STD's
- Talk to your doctor about it



#### YOU CAN BE PART OF THE HIV SOLUTION!



#### **BE YOUR OWN ADVOCATE!**

### Free Testing Sites in "the OC"









Laguna Beach Community



### Resources

www.aids.gov www.thebody.com www.cdc.gov www.ochealthinfo.com www.publichealth.org

### Thank You!



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