

EARLY INTERVENTION  
AND LIFELONG  
TREATMENT MAKE  
IT POSSIBLE FOR  
PEOPLE WITH HIV TO  
ENJOY THE SAME LIFE  
EXPECTANCY AS HIV-  
NEGATIVE PEERS.

ALL  
CONSENTING  
PEOPLE ARE  
RECOMMENDED  
TO GET TESTED  
FOR HIV



**If you think you are  
at risk for HIV;**

**Consult the nearest  
healthcare facility, and  
take health measures  
to protect yourself and  
your baby.**

**ONE IN THREE HIV- POSITIVE  
PARENTS PASS THE VIRUS  
ON TO THEIR BABIES DUE TO  
LACK OF HEALTH MEASURES  
AND TREATMENT.**

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**RIGHT PLACE, QUALITY SERVICES**

Contact the nearest **Migrant Health Centre**  
for more information and support



[www.sihhatproject.org](http://www.sihhatproject.org)

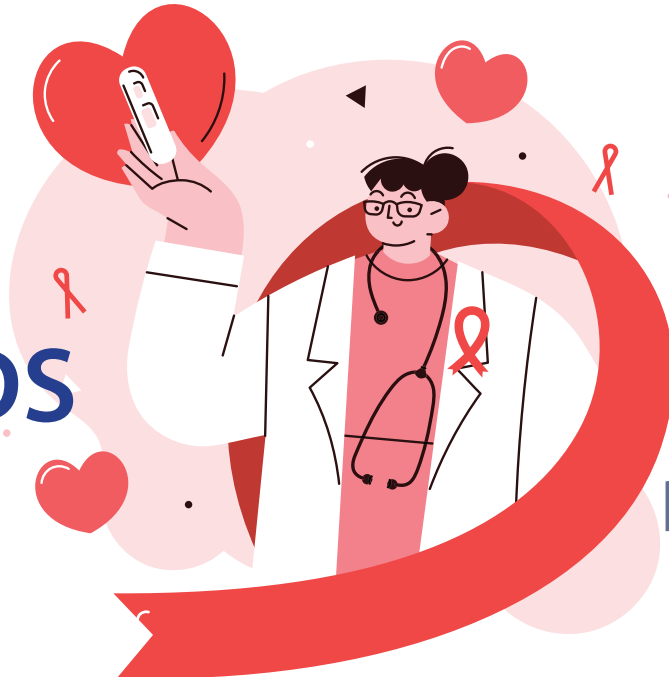


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هذا المشروع تم تمويله من قبل الاتحاد الأوروبي

**HIV/AIDS**



**LEARN  
PROTECT  
TREAT**



# WHAT IS HIV?

HIV stands for Human Immunodeficiency Virus. The virus weakens the immune system and causes serious diseases (infections and cancers, etc.) and death when left untreated.

## WHAT IS HIV POSITIVE?

The term HIV-positive means that someone has been infected with HIV.

# WHAT IS AIDS?

AIDS stands for acquired immunodeficiency syndrome caused by HIV infection and severely damages the immune system if left untreated.

AIDS represents the most severe stage of the infection, in which the person develops opportunistic infections, cancers, or other diseases.

Early diagnosis and treatment prevent HIV from developing into AIDS and help HIV-positive individuals lead healthy lives.

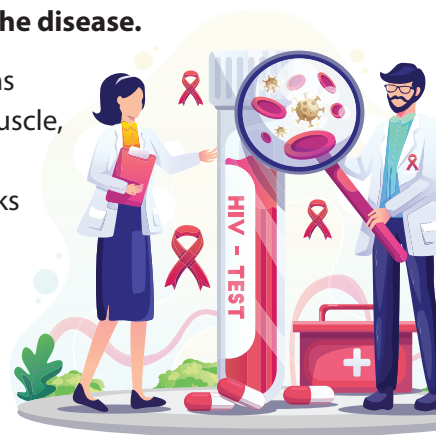
# WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF HIV INFECTION?

## Symptoms vary depending on the stage of the disease.

Some people may experience flu-like symptoms such as fever, headache, sore throat, intense muscle, and joint pain, abdominal pain, diarrhea, rash, swelling, and pain in the lymph nodes 2-4 weeks after being exposed to the virus.

Some cases may not exhibit any symptoms during this period.

After this stage of around a few weeks, the infection may lie dormant for a long time (approximately 5-10 years) and then develop into AIDS.



# TRANSMISSION

## Sexual intercourse

*(It is the most common route of transmission)*

Unprotected sex (oral, vaginal and anal sex without a condom) with an infected person

## Blood-to-blood transmission

Sharing HIV-contaminated needles, syringes, and other sharp objects, or procedures implemented with unsterilized surgical materials (*tattooing, and piercing, etc.*)

## Transfusion of blood and blood products

*(All blood for transfusion is tested for infections in our country since 1987.)*

## Mother-to-child

An HIV-positive parent may pass the infection to her baby during pregnancy, childbirth, or breastfeeding.



## HOW DOES MOTHER-TO-CHILD HIV TRANSMISSION HAPPEN?

through the placenta during pregnancy

through the mother's fluids and blood draining out during labor

through breastfeeding after giving birth

## Is It Possible to Prevent Mother-To-Baby Transmission?

It is possible to reduce risk of infection for the baby substantially (to 1% or less) with health measures and treatment.

HIV treatment started before pregnancy should be continued into the pregnancy and detection of HIV during pregnancy should trigger due treatment.

Although a planned caesarian section is the recommended mode of delivery, it is essential to consult with the respective physicians.

Preventive treatment should be put in place for mothers during labor and for babies after birth; breastfeeding should not be allowed.

