




Which PrEP medication is best for me?

There are three different medications FDA-approved for PrEP: Truvada, Descovy*, and CAB-PrEP. Here is how these medications compare.

	TRUVADA	DESCOVY	CAB-PREP
Effectiveness	>99% effective	>99% effective	CAB-PrEP shown to be superior to daily Truvada
Safety: general	Some stomach upset	Some stomach upset	Injection site reactions
Cost & affordability	Same cost; assistance programs available to cover costs of co-pays and medical care	Same cost; assistance programs available to cover costs of co-pays and medical care	Assistance programs available for insured and uninsured people to cover costs of co-pays and medical care
Regimen	Daily use & PrEP 2-1-1	Daily use (Although Descovy for PrEP 2-1-1 is being studied, there is inadequate clinical data to support this regimen now)	First injection on day 1, and a second injection 1 month later Follow-up injections every 2 months
Show to be effective for	Everyone, including: Gay & bisexual cis men Trans women Trans men Cis women Heterosexuals People who inject drugs	Only: Gay & bisexual cis men Trans women (No clinical data to support use in people who may be exposed to HIV through vaginal sex or injection drug users)	Limited to: Gay & bisexual cis men Trans women Trans men Cis women Heterosexuals Can be offered to people with decreased kidney function (No clinical data to support use in people who may be exposed to HIV through injection drug use)
Bone health	People with osteoporosis should avoid	Safer to take with osteoporosis	No effect on bone health
Kidney health	People with existing kidney issues or a strong family history of kidney disease should avoid	Safer to take with existing kidney issues or a strong family history of kidney disease, though monitoring still recommended	No effect on kidney health
Weight gain & cholesterol	Small degree of weight loss and small decrease in LDL cholesterol in some studies	Small degree of weight gain in some studies	Small degree of weight gain and increases in cholesterol in some studies
What it looks like	 also available in generic		

*Truvada (F/TDF), Descovy (F/TAF)



Questions about PrEP? Email prep@sfaf.org