

Oregon HIV and STD Program Prevention Briefs

SUMMER 2020

Important Information—please read and share

Welcome Back, Prevention Briefs!

You might remember our [Prevention Briefs newsletter](#), which has been inactive for a few years. We're back with quarterly updates to share program changes, news, upcoming events and resources. If you have questions about anything you read or suggestions for future Prevention Briefs, please [email Shelley!](#)

PrEP Resources

OHA now has an expanded [PrEP and PEP webpage](#), full of information for consumers and providers. The Oregon AIDS Education and Training Center (AETC) has an interactive and searchable [PrEP provider list](#), to help users find PrEP prescribers. Additionally, OHA recently completed a special surveillance report of descriptive information on people newly diagnosed with HIV who reported a history of taking PrEP. The report highlights barriers to PrEP usage, as participants were asked about their experiences using PrEP and why they stopped. [Read the report here.](#)

On June 30, OHA and AETC collaborated to host a half-day Zoom forum called PrEP Connect. The aim of the forum was to define the current landscape of PrEP access in Oregon and identify activities and collaborations to make PrEP access more equitable. Ninety-eight attendees from across the state participated including clinicians, navigators/case workers, DIS, alcohol and substance use providers, and administrators.

Priority interventions identified by attendees to support increased PrEP access and retention in PrEP were: 1) TelePrEP; 2) Culturally responsive PrEP navigation; 3) Culturally responsive provider education; 4) Community education/campaigns

The statewide nPEP/PrEP workgroup facilitated by AETC is a helpful forum for those interested in collaborating on initiatives to increase PrEP access and awareness. For more information about the monthly workgroup meetings contact Ashley Allison at ashley@oraetc.org.

Free Condoms Available from Oregon Reminders

[Oregon Reminders](#) is now distributing condoms for free to Oregon residents! Once a month, Oregonians can have 12 free latex or non-latex condoms and lubricant packets delivered to their door in a discreet package. This service has been very popular and has been meeting the monthly limit quickly, so please encourage clients to go to the Oregon Reminders site early in the month to secure their order. Local Public Health Authorities and community organizations can also mail condoms to clients if you're interested. If you have any questions about Oregon Reminders, please [reach out to Alicia.](#)



Partner Spotlight: Cascade AIDS Project

To celebrate Pride this year, Cascade AIDS Project's (CAP) Prevention Team distributed "Pride Packs" to the community. These fabulous fanny packs were filled with a variety of safer sex supplies, sexual health and local HIV testing information, and fun CAP swag such



as condoms and lube, sunglasses, hand sanitizer, leather wrist bands, and optional sex toys to celebrate empowered sexual health! There are still some Pride Packs remaining for distribution to community partners in the Portland-metro area. Contact Matthew Lucas at mlucas@capnw.org for more info.

Free Home HIV Tests Available

OHA is a participant in the new [takemehome.co](https://www.takemehome.co) initiative to offer free at-home HIV tests to Oregon residents. To qualify for a test, users must have an Oregon address and have not been tested for HIV in the past year. A rapid oral HIV test is mailed in discreet packaging to the user's home, and they can access a variety of resources on the website after taking their test.

So far, feedback has included:

- "Thank you for giving me peace of mind, and for the confidentiality."
- "Very clear instructions and easy to use."
- "I've always been too embarrassed and nervous to go in and get a test. You guys made it so easy and private."
- "Super fast shipping. Thank you!"
- "As a person who is nervous to go into the hospital right now, I appreciate this service so much"
- "I like how discreet it was and the fact you don't have to wait in a waiting room just do it from the comfort of your own home."

See a map of tests ordered from March – May 2020 by zip code on the next page.

Number of kits by zip code, takemehome.co, March 31 through May 31, 2020

