Non-Occupational HIV Post Exposure Prophylaxis (NPEP) Protocol

Who
Infectious Diseases (ID) staff
Emergency Department (ED) staff
Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine (VIFM) staff
Pharmacy Department Staff

Where applicable
Monash Medical Centre Clayton (MMC) ONLY.
Patients presenting at other Southern Health (SH) sites should be referred to MMC.

Expected outcomes
That patients requiring non-occupational post exposure prophylaxis (NPEP) for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) will receive appropriate medication.
That all legal and administrative requirements will be satisfied in the process of prescribing and dispensing NPEP.

If occupational post exposure prophylaxis is required (for personnel including SH staff members, community health care workers, police officers and ambulance officers), refer to SH Protocol PH-DT60, “Occupational HIV Post Exposure Prophylaxis Protocol”.

- Victorian NPEP Service starter and remainder packs should only be used for NPEP.
- SH post exposure prophylaxis (PEP) starter kits should only be used for occupational exposures.

When applicable
A patient may present to ED or to the South Eastern Centre Against Sexual Assault (SECASA) in one of the following situations:
- needle stick injury
- sexual assault
- consensual unprotected sexual activity with a known/suspected HIV positive source
- high risk sexual behaviour requesting NPEP
- intravenous drug use, sharing needles with known/suspected HIV positive source

Partners of HIV patients currently being treated by the ID unit may present for NPEP directly to the ID Unit. This protocol applies.

Why
PEP has been shown to decrease the risk of HIV transmission by 81% in health care professionals who received PEP after being exposed to HIV in the workplace. Mother to child transmission of HIV has also been shown to be reduced by the use of pre-natal pre-exposure prophylaxis combined with 6 weeks of PEP therapy for the infant. There are no studies to prove efficacy in the non-occupational setting, however it is reasonable to assume that the risk of transmission of HIV will also be reduced by the use of PEP in this setting.
This protocol does not provide guidance on which antiretroviral agents to prescribe for a particular type of exposure; please refer to the Victorian NPEP Service Guidelines 2007, available online at www.alfredhealth.org.au/Department.aspx?ID=430

The following 28 day regimens may be used for NPEP:
- Truvada® (tenofovir 300mg/emtricitabine 200mg) one tablet once daily ± Kaletra® (lopinavir 200mg/ritonavir 50mg) two tablets twice a day;
- Combivir® (lamivudine 150mg/zidovudine 300mg) one tablet twice a day ± Kaletra® (lopinavir 200mg/ritonavir 50mg) two tablets twice a day.

**Equipment**
- SH prescription form
- Victorian NPEP Service starter packs
- Victorian NPEP Service remainder packs
- Victorian NPEP Service starter kit, containing PEP Information Sheet and Participant Information Form
- Victorian NPEP Service Initial Consultation form (available on SH Pharmacy Intranet site, forms section)
- Victorian NPEP Follow Up Consultation form (available on SH Pharmacy Intranet site, forms section)

**Presentation**
Victorian NPEP packs are provided by the Alfred Hospital Pharmacy Department.

**Victorian NPEP Service starter packs available:**

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<tr>
<td>Truvada® starter pack</td>
<td>tenofovir 300mg/emtricitabine 200mg</td>
<td>7 tablets</td>
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<td>Kaletra® starter pack</td>
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<td>Combivir® starter pack</td>
<td>lamivudine 150mg/zidovudine 300mg</td>
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**Victorian NPEP Service remainder packs available:**

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<tr>
<td>Truvada® remainder pack</td>
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<td>Kaletra® remainder pack</td>
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<td>Combivir® remainder pack</td>
<td>lamivudine 150mg/zidovudine 300mg</td>
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**Storage**
- Truvada® (tenofovir/emtricitabine): Tablets should be stored in original container with silica gel desiccant at all times. Store below 30°C.
- Kaletra® (lopinavir/ritonavir): Store below 30°C.
- Combivir® (lamivudine/zidovudine): Store below 30°C.
SECTION 1: INITIATION OF NPEP (STARTER PACKS)

Medical Officer Responsibilities

The following steps are to be followed by the ED/SECASA medical officer once the exposure is deemed to pose a potentially significant risk.

Step 1 Refer to ID medical officer to determine if NPEP is appropriate and which antiretroviral agents to prescribe. Outside of normal working hours (5pm to 8am, weekends and public holidays) contact the on-call ID medical officer.

A SH ID medical officer (registrar or consultant) must authorise the use of NPEP.

Step 2 Write a prescription for 7 days of the appropriate NPEP antiretroviral agents on a SH prescription form.

Step 3 Complete the Victorian NPEP Service Initial Consultation form (forms are located in the ED after hours cupboard, SECASA office or on the Pharmacy Intranet Site).

The SH prescription is a legal requirement.

The Victorian NPEP Service Initial Consultation form must be completed in order to obtain a remainder pack to complete the 28 day course of treatment.

Step 4 Provide Victorian NPEP Service Starter Kit and medication counselling to the patient on how to take the medication and possible side effects. The starter kits are located in the ED after hours cupboard and SECASA office or contact ED pharmacist to obtain a kit during working hours.

Step 5 Arrange for the patient to return for follow-up assessment with ID within one week.

Step 6 Organise supply of NPEP starter pack(s).

There is no charge for NPEP medication to the patient.

Within normal working hours

Contact ED pharmacist (pager: 4225) or ID pharmacist (pager: 4325) to organise dispensing of NPEP starter pack(s).

If there is a reason why it is not appropriate for a pharmacist to provide further medication counselling (eg. sexual assault victim in distress), the dispensed starter pack(s) can be delivered back to the prescribing medical officer who can then provide this counselling.

Outside normal working hours

Supply NPEP starter pack(s), located in ED after hours cupboard or SECASA office. Complete patient name, date and prescriber name on label of starter pack(s).

Record the starter pack numbers (eg. C113, T110) on the Victorian NPEP Service Initial Consultation form.

Endorse “NPEP starter pack dispensed” on the prescription and leave it in the pharmacy tray in the ED after hours cupboard (including those written for SECASA patients).

The ID medical officer must notify the ID pharmacist the next working day.

Step 7 Fax the Victorian NPEP Service Initial Consultation form to the Victorian NPEP Service (fax number: 03 9076 6093).
ED and ID Pharmacist Responsibilities

**Step 1** Enter the prescription into Merlin® (pharmacy dispensing program), under an outpatient (“O”) category, using the appropriate inventory codes for the starter pack(s):

- Combivir® starter pack  lamivudine 150mg/zidovudine 300mg  LAMI15
- Kaletra® starter pack  lopinavir 200mg/ritonavir 50mg  RITO8
- Truvada® starter pack  tenofovir 300mg/emtricitabine 200mg  TENO7

There is no charge for NPEP medication to the patient.

When NPEP is supplied after hours, the ED pharmacist will collect the prescription from the ED medication room on the next working day and enter into Merlin®.

**Step 2** Dispense the prescribed medication using the Victorian NPEP Service starter pack(s) located in the High Cost/Non Formulary cupboard (in Deputy Director’s office).

**Step 3** Provide additional medication counselling to the patient in ED (refer to Step 6 in “Medical Officer Responsibilities”).

**Step 4** File a copy of the prescription in the NPEP folder (located in QUM office).

**SECTION 2: CONTINUATION OF NPEP (REMAINDER PACKS)**

The Victorian NPEP Service will send remainder pack(s) to the SH Pharmacy Department only on receipt of the Victorian NPEP Service Initial Consultation form. These will be received by the ID pharmacist and stored in the High Cost/Non Formulary cupboard.

**Step 1** The patient returns to see an ID medical officer (within 7 days).

**Step 2** The ID medical officer writes a prescription for 21 days of treatment with the antiretroviral agents that the patient was initially prescribed (to complete the 28 day course).

**Step 3** The ID medical officer arranges for the patient to return for follow-up visits at 4 weeks, 3 months and 6 months and completes and faxes the Victorian NPEP Service Follow Up Consultation form (to the Victorian NPEP Service, fax number: 03 9076 6093).

**Step 4** The patient takes the prescription to the SH Pharmacy Department to be dispensed.

**Step 5** The pharmacist/technician enters the prescription into Merlin®, under category “O”, using the appropriate inventory codes for the remainder pack(s):

- Combivir® remainder pack  lamivudine 150mg/zidovudine 300mg  LAMI16
- Kaletra® remainder pack  lopinavir 200mg/ritonavir 50mg  RITO9
- Truvada® remainder pack  tenofovir 300mg/emtricitabine 200mg  TENO6

There is no charge for NPEP medication to the patient.

**Step 6** The prescription is dispensed using the Victorian NPEP Service remainder pack(s)

**Step 7** The pharmacist provides medication counselling to the patient.

**Step 8** The pharmacist notifies the ID pharmacist and arranges a copy of the prescription to be filed in the NPEP folder (located in QUM office).
In the event that a prescription is written by an ID medical officer (within normal working hours), for a complete 28 day course of NPEP the full course can be supplied to the patient. Please contact the ID pharmacist for assistance with dispensing this prescription.

If an adverse event (actual or ‘near miss’) is associated with prescribing or supply of NPEP, document details in the health record and log an incident entry in RiskMan.

Australian Medicines Handbook, 2009
Victorian NPEP Service Guidelines, July 2007

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