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|   |  Clár Sláinte Ghnéis,Urlár 4, 89 – 94 Sráid Chéipil,Baile Átha Cliath 1, T:01 79 59130 Email: Sexual.Health@hse.ie[**www.sexualwellbeing.ie**](http://www.sexualwellbeing.ie) Sexual Health Programme,4th Floor, 89 – 94 Capel Street,Dublin 1. |
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**Health Service Executive (HSE)**

**National HIV Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) Programme**

Application Form

**Background**

HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) is the pre-emptive use of oral antiretroviral therapy in HIV negative people to reduce the risk of HIV infection. Since 2019, the HSE has made PrEP medication available free of charge through community pharmacies to individuals who are likely to benefit from the intervention and for whom it is not contraindicated.

At this time, free PrEP care is available through public PrEP clinics. Individuals attending other approved PrEP providers (such as general practice (GP) or private providers) will have to pay for the consultation, investigations, treatment of STIs and vaccines.

HIV PrEP should be provided as part of a combination HIV (and STI) prevention approach within services that meet core national standards.

**Applying to be a HSE approved PrEP Provider**

To apply to be a PrEP provider, your service is required to meet the core National Standards for the Delivery and Management of HIV PrEP in Ireland, available on [www.sexualwellbeing.ie/prepproviders](http://www.sexualwellbeing.ie/prepproviders). Assess your service against the core standards, and complete the checklist on pages 4 and 5.

In addition, for GP PrEP providers, a number of competencies must be completed prior to becoming a HSE approved PrEP provider. Please complete checklist on page 5:

1. Complete the HSEland ‘HIV PrEP e-learning programme’ with exit assessment <https://www.hseland.ie>
2. Complete STIF one/two/three within the previous 3 years. Details of upcoming STIF courses are here <https://www.stif.org.uk/events/category/theory/>
3. Complete the HSEland ‘LGBT+ Awareness and Inclusion Training: the basics’ training course, <https://www.hseland.ie>
4. Agreement to follow the HSE antibiotic prescribing guidelines for management of intercurrent STIs, <https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/2/gp/antibiotic-prescribing/conditions-and-treatments/genital/genital-conditions.html>

Of note, some other providers, working outside consultant led services, may also need to complete these competencies depending on their training, qualifications and experience.

If you are satisfied that your service meets the core standards, complete the application form on page 3 and submit this with the completed checklists, and your HSEland PrEP e-learning certificate, to HSE Sexual Health Programme (SHP) for approval.

Completed application forms should be sent to Caroline Hurley, Programme Manager, by email to caroline.hurley1@hse.ie or by post to: HSE Sexual Health Pregnancy Programme, 4th Floor, 89 - 94 Capel Street, Dublin 1, D01 P281.

Your application will be reviewed by SHP and when approved, you will be provided the HIV PrEP Service Agreement for signing, and instructions for registration with PCRS as an approved PrEP provider.

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**PrEP Service Provider Application Form**

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| **Information and data protection notice** |
| 1. Please complete all sections below (preferably electronically, or in block capitals if being completed by hand)
2. **Data protection notice**: This information, including personal data, is collected and used by the HSE for the purpose of providing a health service. It is required, stored, processed and disclosed to other bodies in accordance with the laws relating to proper treatment of personal data.
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| **1.** | **Name of service** (hospital or practice) |  |
| **2.** | **Service Address** |  |
| **3.** | **Name of requesting physician?[[1]](#footnote-1)** (Full name as on Irish medical council register) |  |
| **4.** | **Irish Medical Council Number** |  |
| **5.** | **Email Address**  |  |
| **6.** | **Telephone Number** |  |

**Core National Standards for HIV PrEP: Self-assessment Checklist**

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| **Please complete the checklist below on the core National Standards for HIV PrEP. Please refer to full standards document regarding footnotes and provide written documentation where required.** |
| **Core Standard 1: Access** |
| People seeking PrEP will be able to do so without a referral letter | Y | N |
| **Core Standard 2: Service configuration and structure: availability of the following core services** |
| Condoms and lubricant[[2]](#footnote-2) | Y | N |
| HAV, HBV, HPV, Mpox vaccination in line with national immunisation guidelines[[3]](#footnote-3) | Y | N |
| HIV testing using accredited diagnostics | Y | N |
| STI testing using accredited diagnostics | Y | N |
| STI treatment within service[[4]](#footnote-4) | Y | N |
| HIV Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) in line with national PEP guidelines[[5]](#footnote-5) | Y | N |
| Partner notification for incident STIs | Y | N |
| Safer sex, alcohol and substance misuse advice | Y | N |
| Referral mechanism for attendees to additional services as required | Y | N |
| Meet statutory disease notification & surveillance requirements within a reasonable timeframe | Y | N |
| Participate fully in national PrEP monitoring and evaluation within a reasonable timeframe | Y | N |
| **Core Standard 3: Clinical Assessment and Management** |
| All PrEP patients will have their clinical eligibility criteria assessed and documented at visits | Y | N |
| All PrEP patients will have their sexual history documented at visits | Y | N |
| All PrEP patients will have their HIV negative status confirmed prior to each PrEP prescription | Y | N |
| All PrEP patients considering event based dosing (EBD) PrEP will have a confirmed negative hepatitis B surface antigen test before commencing EBD | Y | N |
| All PrEP patients will have appropriate renal monitoring | Y | N |
| All PrEP patients with incident STIs will be contacted within 14 working days of final results being available | Y | N |
| All PrEP patients with incident STIs will have partner notification undertaken | Y | N |
| All PrEP patients will be offered appropriate vaccination as part of their care | Y | N |
| All PrEP patients can avail of free condoms and lube as part of their care1 | Y | N |
| All PrEP patients will be offered syphilis, hepatitis B (where not known to be immune), gonorrhoea and chlamydia testing at visits | Y | N |
| All PrEP patients will be offered HCV testing in line with national testing guidelines | Y | N |
| **Core Standard 4: Management of results** |
| Mechanism(s) in place for management of all abnormal or inconclusive results in PrEP patients in a reasonable timeframe | Y | N |
| All PrEP patients with abnormal or inconclusive results will be informed within 14 working days of the final result being available | Y | N |
| **Core Standard 5: Clinical Governance and staff training** |
| For general practice delivered PrEP services, each GP PrEP provider has to have completed agreed competencies prior to becoming an approved PrEP provider | Y | N |
| Appropriate clinical governance and staff training is in place | Y | N |
| **Core Standard 6: Information Governance** |
| Compliant with national data protection and infectious diseases legislation | Y | N |
| **Core Standard 7: Patient and Public Engagement** |
| Mechanism for receiving patient and public feedback (including complaints) and suggestions in place | Y | N |
| Information available to patients and the public on how to provide feedback | Y | N |
| Mechanism in place to respond to patient and public feedback | Y | N |

**HIV PrEP Competencies Checklist**

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| **Competency** |  | **Date** |
| Complete the HSEland ‘HIV PrEP e-learning programme’ with exit assessment <https://www.hseland.ie>. Please attach your certificate\* with you application also. | Y |  |
| Complete STIF one/two/three within the previous 3 years. Details of upcoming STIF courses are here <https://www.stif.org.uk/events/category/theory/>  | Y |  |
| Complete the HSEland ‘LGBT+ Awareness and Inclusion Training: the basics’ training course, <https://www.hseland.ie>  | Y |  |
| Agreement to follow the HSE antibiotic prescribing guidelines for management of intercurrent STIs, https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/2/gp/antibiotic-prescribing/conditions-and-treatments/genital/ | Y | NA |

\* To download your certificate from HSEland. When you have completed the course you need to ‘Move (it) to learning history’. Then go into the learning history tab and hover over the settings icon and you will see the option to print cert – when you click on that you have the option to save it as a pdf also.

1. A separate form must be submitted for each physician at a service wishing to become an approved PrEP provider [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. SHCPP approved PrEP services will be provided access to free condoms and lube through [NCDS](https://www.sexualwellbeing.ie/for-professionals/national-condom-distribution-service/national-condom-distribution-overview/) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. It is recognised that at this time some private services do not have access to free vaccines for their service users. The SHP is currently working with the National Immunisation Office to increase availability of free vaccine within private PrEP services. In the meantime, an agreed referral pathway to free vaccines within public PrEP services is being explored. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Please refer to the Standards for requirements on STI treatment. Syphilis should be managed at a specialised STI service and a timely syphilis treatment access pathway must be in place. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Please refer to the Standards for requirements regarding PEP. It is recognised that PEP is not currently available through general practice and some other services. The service must have a PEP access pathway in place (not limited to ED). [↑](#footnote-ref-5)