

900,000 CASES OF AIDS REPORTED IN THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1981

APPROXIMATELY 1 MILLION AMERICANS HIV+

LEADING KILLER OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MALES/FEMALES

OHIO RANKS 14TH OUT OF THE 50 STATES FOR HIV

25,000 Ohioans infected with HIV

40,000 INDIVIDUALS INFECTED IN THE WORLD

16,000 NEW CASES DAILEY IN THE WORLD

1 IN EVERY 4 CASES ARE TO TEENAGERS

13-24 AGE GROUP IS THE HARDEST HIT GROUP WORLDWIDE FOR HIV

FEMALES HIGH RISK GROUP BECAUSE THEY RECEIVE BODILY FLUIDS

MEN HAVING SEX WITH MEN HIGHEST RISK TO THE RECEIVER OF FLUIDS

YOU CANNOT GET HIV BY: MOSQUITO BITES, TOILET SEATS, NOT AIRBORNE, NOT SURFACE BORNE, KISSING (DEEP KISSING NO EVIDENCE), SALIVA, TEARS, SWEAT, URINE (unless blood), FECES (unless blood), SHARING FOOD, COOKING UTENSILS, CUPS, PLATES, TOWELS, BEDDING, TELEPHONES, SWIMMING POOLS, OR BITING INSECTS.

YOU CAN GET HIV BY THREE CATEGORIES AND BEHAVIORS: BLOOD TO BLOOD CONTACT (INTRAVENOUS DRUG USAGE HIGH RISK BECAUSE OF NEEDLE/SYRINGE SHARING HOWEVER, IT IS RARE FOR A PATIENT TO GIVE HIV TO A HEALTH CARE WORKER OR VICE-VERSA BY ACCIDENTAL STICKS WITH CONTAMINATED NEEDLES OR MEDICAL INSTRUMENTS). BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS ARE VERY, VERY RARE FOR CONTRACTING HIV (1 IN 650,000) DUE TO EFFECTIVE BLOOD SCREENING AND HEAT TREATMENT. UNPROTECTED SEX TRANSMISSION IS BY HAVING SEX WITH AN INFECTED PARTNER WITHOUT USING A CONDOM (LATEX NOT LAMBSKIN—PORES ARE TO LARGE IN OTHER PRODUCTS AND MAY ALLOW HIV TO GO THROUGH THE CONDOM, THE CONDOM MUST BE USED CORRECTLY WITH A COLLECTION TIP LEFT AT THE END WITH THE AIR SQUEEZED OUT, AND NEVER USE A CONDOM THAT HAS BEEN LEFT IN THE CAR, WALLET, OR PURSE BECAUSE HEAT, COLD, FRICTION, AND OBJECTS DESTROY THE CONDOM. NEVER PUT ANYTHING BUT A WATER BASED LUBRICANT ON THE CONDOM BECAUSE OIL OR PETROLEUM BASED PRODUCTS WILL DESTROY IT.) THE HIV VIRUS CAN ENTER THE BODY THROUGH THE LINING OF THE VAGINA, VULVA, PENIS, RECTUM, OR MOUTH DURING SEX. DURING PREGNANCY OR BIRTH A

WOMAN CAN TRANSMIT HIV TO HER BABY. APPROXIMATELY 1/4 TO 1/3 OF ALL UNTREATED PREGNANT WOMEN INFECTED WITH HIV WILL PASS THE INFECTION TO THEIR BABIES. HIV ALSO CAN BE SPREAD TO BABIES THROUGH BREAST MILK. IF THE MOTHER TAKES THE DRUG AZT DURING PREGNANCY, SHE CAN SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE THE CHANCES OF INFECTING THE BABY. IF TREATED AND DELIVERED BY CESAREAN SECTION, THE CHANCES CAN BE REDUCED TO A RATE OF 1%.

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES INCREASE THE INDIVIDUALS RISK OF SUSCEPTIBILITY DUE TO OPEN LESIONS, SORES, BUMPS, TEARS/ABRASIONS. EXAMPLES: SYPHILIS, GENITAL HERPES, CHLAMYDIAL INFECTION, GONORRHEA, GENITAL WARTS, BACTERIAL VAGINOSIS.

MANY PEOPLE DO NOT HAVE ANY SYMPTOMS WHEN THEY FIRST BECOME INFECTED WITH HIV. SOME MAY EXPERIENCE FLU-LIKE ILLNESS WITHIN A MONTH OR TWO AFTER EXPOSURE TO THE HIV VIRUS. THESE SYMPTOMS USUALLY DISAPPEAR WITHIN A WEEK TO A MONTH AND MAY BE EASILY CONFUSED WITH OTHER VIRAL INFECTIONS AND IGNORED. THIS TIME PERIOD IS VERY INFECTIOUS AND HIV IS PRESENT IN LARGE QUANTITIES IN GENITAL FLUIDS. OTHER SYMPTOMS MAY NOT SURFACE FOR UPWARDS OF TEN YEARS AFTER THE INDIVIDUAL HAS BEEN INFECTED WITH THE HIV VIRUS. THE VIRUS IS ALWAYS ACTIVELY MULTIPLYING , INFECTING, AND KILLING THE CELLS OF THE IMMUNE SYSTEM. IN THE BEGINNING, THE BODY IS ACTIVELY FIGHTING THE VIRUS BUT MAY WEAKEN OVER TIME DUE TO THE PROGRESSION OF THE ATTACK OF THE VIRUS. AS THE IMMUNE SYSTEM DETERIORATES, COMPLICATIONS BEGIN TO SHOW. SOME INITIAL STAGE SIGNS ARE: LARGE LYMPH NODES OR SWOLLEN GLANDS THAT STAY ENLARGED FOR A PERIOD OF TIME, LACK OF ENERGY, WEIGHT LOSS, NIGHT SWEATS, FEVERS, CHRONIC YEAST INFECTIONS (ORAL OR VAGINAL), FLAKY SKIN, SKIN RASHES, PELVIC INFLAMMATORY DISEASE THAT DOES NOT RESPOND TO TREATMENT, SHORT TERM MEMORY LOSS, AND SOME PEOPLE DEVELOP FREQUENT AND SEVERE HERPES INFECTIONS THAT CAUSE MOUTH, GENITAL, OR ANAL SORES, OR SHINGLES (PAINFUL NERVE DISEASE).

AIDS IS THE TERM APPLIED TO THE MOST ADVANCED STAGE OF HIV INFECTION AND CERTAIN CRITERIA MUST BE MET FOR TRACKING THE SPREAD OF AIDS IN THE UNITED STATES.

CDC'S DEFINES AIDS AS INCLUDING ALL HIV+ INFECTED PEOPLE WHO HAVE LESS THAN 200 CD4+t CELLS PER CUBIC MILLIMETER OF BLOOD (HEALTHY INDIVIDUALS TYPICALLY HAVE CD4+T CELL COUNTS OF 1,000 OR MORE). ALSO, THE DEFINITION INCLUDES 26 CLINICAL CONDITIONS THAT AFFECT PEOPLE WITH ADVANCED HIV DISEASE. THESE ARE CALLED OPPORTUNISTIC INFECTIONS THAT GENERALLY DO NOT AFFECT HEALTHY PEOPLE. THESE INFECTIONS ARE OFTEN SEVERE AND SOMETIMES FATAL BECAUSE THE IMMUNE SYSTEM IS SO

DESTROYED BY HIV THAT THE BODY CANNOT FIGHT OFF BACTERIA, VIRUSES, FUNGI, PARASITES, AND OTHER MICROBES.

SYMPTOMS OF OPPORTUNISTIC INFECTIONS COMMON FOR AIDS: COUGHING AND SHORTNESS OF BREATH, SEIZURES AND LACK OF COORDINATION, DIFFICULT OR PAINFUL SWALLOWING, MENTAL SYMPTOMS SUCH AS CONFUSION AND FORGETFULNESS, SEVERE AND PERSISTENT DIARRHEA, FEVER, VISION LOSS, NAUSEA, ABDOMINAL CRAMPS, VOMITING, WEIGHT LOSS, EXTREME FATIGUE, SEVERE HEADACHES, & COMA. AIDS PATIENTS ARE PARTICULARLY PRONE TO DEVELOPING VARIOUS CANCERS (KAPOSI'S SARCOMA, CERVICAL CANCER, AND LYMPHOMAS).

THERE IS NO VACCINE FOR HIV AND NO CURE FOR AIDS. MANY PEOPLE HAVE NO SYMPTOMS AND YOU CANNOT TELL IF SOMEONE HAS THE DISEASE BY LOOKING AT THEM, BY RACE, BY AGE, BY SEXUAL ORIENTATION. THEREFORE, THERE IS NO WAY OF KNOWING WITH CERTAINTY WHETHER A SEXUAL PARTNER IS INFECTED UNLESS HE/SHE HAS REPEATEDLY TESTED NEGATIVE FOR THE VIRUS AND HAS NOT ENGAGED IN ANY OF THE RISKY BEHAVIORS. PEOPLE SHOULD **ABSTAIN FROM HAVING SEX, USE MALE LATEX CONDOMS OR FEMALE POLYURETHANE CONDOMS WHICH MAY OFFER PROTECTION DURING ORAL, ANAL, OR VAGINAL SEX.** RESEARCHERS HAVE NOT FOUND ANY EVIDENCE THAT SPERMICIDES CAN KILL HIV.