



LESSON M · MEDICATIONS · REFERENCE CARD

DOXY-PEP TABLE

An antibiotic taken after sex to lower the chance of some bacterial STIs. Backup, not frontline.

WHAT IT COVERS – AND THE GAP (TRIAL ESTIMATES)

Syphilis		80–87%	
Chlamydia		87–88%	
Gonorrhea		50–55%	THE GAP – ABOUT HALF
HIV		0%	ANTIBIOTIC, NOT ANTIVIRAL
Herpes		0%	VIRUS
HPV		0%	VIRUS

Lighter band = the range across trials. **Doxy-PEP is backup, not frontline.** Your results can differ.

HOW IT'S TAKEN

- **One 200 mg dose** of doxycycline within **72 hours after sex**, as prescribed.
- **Test for STIs** at baseline and **every 3–6 months** while you use it.

WHO IT'S RECOMMENDED FOR

CDC (2024) recommends offering doxy-PEP to gay and bisexual men and transgender women who had a **bacterial STI in the past 12 months**. For other people the evidence is insufficient to recommend it — **talk with a clinician**.

IT DOES NOT REPLACE THE OTHER PIECES

T Barriers — for gonorrhea, viruses and more **M** PrEP / PEP — for HIV **A** Testing every 3–6 months

THE ASK

“I’ve heard about Doxy-PEP as backup. Is it right for me, and can we get a prescription on file?”

IF A PARTNER SAYS “DOXY HAS IT HANDLED” — HOLD THE LINE

“Doxy only covers some bacteria — about half of gonorrhea — and nothing for HIV, herpes or HPV. The barrier is still non-negotiable for me.”

QUICK CHECK — TRUE, FALSE, OR “IT DEPENDS”?

1. Doxy-PEP prevents HIV.
2. It’s one 200 mg dose within 72 hours after sex.
3. Doxy-PEP covers gonorrhea as well as syphilis.
4. You still test every 3–6 months.

ANSWERS: 1 false — antibiotic, not antiviral · 2 true · 3 false — about half · 4 true

Name the gap without checking: _____