



Health Tribune

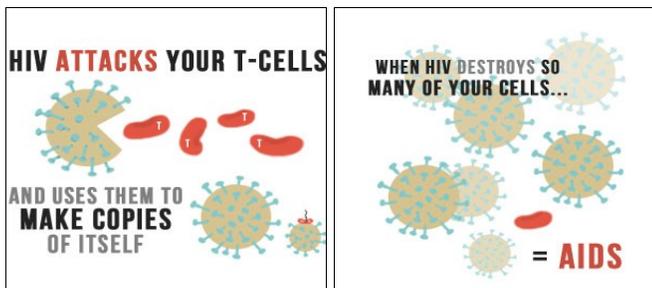
Thinking about your health in Portage County
Provided by the Portage County Health Department



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December is... AIDS Awareness Month

AIDS stands for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. It is caused by infection with HIV. This syndrome slowly deteriorates the immune system in the human body. Even though a person could be HIV positive does not mean that they have or will develop AIDS. If a person is infected with HIV they need to seek medical treatment to prevent the virus from progressing into AIDS. A person needs an HIV test to know if they are infected with HIV.



How HIV is transmitted

Did you know that there are four bodily fluids that can transmit the HIV infection? The 4 bodily fluids include: blood, semen, vaginal fluid, and breast milk. These fluids from the infected person would need to come in contact with your mucus membranes such as eyes, nose, mouth, genital or anal areas.

Risky behaviors

Risky behaviors that frequently lead to HIV infection are unprotected sex (vaginal, anal, oral), sharing needles (drug use, tattoos, piercings), or being born to a mother who is HIV positive.

Learn about your risks and what you can do to protect yourself, get tested for HIV.



For more information: <http://www.aids.gov/hiv-aids-basics/hiv-aids-101/signs-and-symptoms/index.html>

Did you know...?

About 1.1 million people in the United States were living with HIV at the end of 2009, the most recent year this information was available. Of those people, about 18% do not know they are infected. In the United States, about 15,500 people with AIDS died in 2010. HIV disease remains a significant cause of death for certain populations. To date, more than 635,000 individuals with AIDS in the United States have died. About 50,000 people get infected with HIV each year. In 2010, there were around 47,500 new HIV infections in the United States.

Get Tested for free!

Portage County Health Department now has HIV testing. Set up an appointment today!
Any questions or concerns call Kat at 330-296-9919 ext. 107 or Becky at 330-296-9919 ext. 137.

The Portage County Health Department is located at:
705 Oakwood Street
2nd Floor
Ravenna, OH 44266

Testing Locations are:
Portage Co. Health Dept., Ravenna
Renaissance Family Ctr., Windham
Townhall II, Kent
Kent City Health Department.



For more statistics: <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/basics/statistics.html>

Questions or Comments?

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