One Pill A Day May Keep HIV Away

Why are we concerned about reducing the risk for HIV?
HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) is the virus that can lead to AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome) if not treated. Unlike some other viruses, the human body can’t get rid of HIV completely, even with treatment. So once you get HIV, you have it for life.

What is PrEP?
PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) is a pill that you take once a day to reduce your chance of getting HIV. PrEP can stop HIV from taking hold and spreading throughout your body. If you combine PrEP with condoms and other prevention methods, your risk of getting HIV is even lower.

Who is PrEP for?
PrEP is for men or woman who are HIV-negative and are any of the following:
- Partners of someone who is HIV positive OR
- Someone who shares needles OR
- Sex workers OR
- Transwomen or men who have sex with men OR
- Someone else at high risk of getting HIV

Where can someone get PrEP services?
The Charlottesville/Albemarle Health Department offers PrEP services for FREE to all Virginians who are at high risk of getting HIV, including testing and medication.

For more information: Call the Charlottesville/Albemarle Health Department at (434) 972–6223 or online at www.vdh.virginia.gov/disease-prevention/disease-prevention/prep-and-npep/