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# Sexual Exposure

INFORMATION LEAFLET

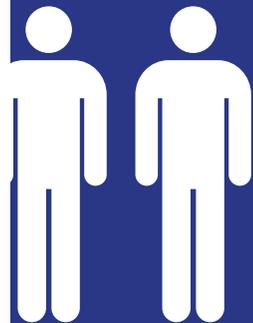


### Am I at risk of an infection?

Following an assessment and depending on your type of sexual exposure, you may be at risk of getting some sexually transmitted infections, for example, chlamydia, syphilis and gonorrhoea. You may also be at risk for bloodborne viruses, such as: hepatitis B, hepatitis C and HIV.

### How do I know if I have one of these infections?

With your consent, a blood sample may be taken in the Emergency Department to test for bloodborne viruses (hepatitis B, hepatitis C and HIV) and syphilis to rule out any infection you may already have. Arrangements will then be made for you to have blood tests carried out again over the next few months in case you have become infected as a result of this sexual exposure. You will then be referred for follow-up to the nearest Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI)/ Genitourinary Medicine (GUM) or Infectious Disease (ID) Clinic where you will be tested for other sexually transmitted infections.



### I am worried about pregnancy?

An emergency contraceptive or 'morning after pill' may be prescribed for you following a pregnancy test. If you are going to take the 'morning after pill', an information leaflet will be given to you which will describe what it is and how it works.



### Am I allowed to be a blood donor?

You should avoid donating blood or other body fluids for the duration of your follow up.

If you have been sexually assaulted and it has been reported to the Gardai, you will be referred to the nearest Sexual Assault Treatment Unit (SATU) for treatment.

### What treatments are available for these infections?

If you have not previously been vaccinated for hepatitis B, you may be advised to get vaccinated against hepatitis B.

- The first dose of the vaccine may be given to you in the emergency department or SATU.
- You will be told where to get the following doses which may be with your GP.
- You will be given a hepatitis B vaccination card which will outline when you should get the next doses of the vaccine.

HIV Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP): This is only recommended for a small number of patients and depends on the risk of HIV transmission as a result of your sexual exposure. The doctor will advise you if this treatment is required and provide you with more information about what the treatment is.

### What other follow-up do I need?

- If you are being referred to a specialist clinic, you will either be given their contact details or given instructions with regard to appointments.
- A referral letter will be sent to the specialist clinic explaining the assessment and treatment that you have received.
- If you have any concerns regarding this advice or wish to receive counselling, please discuss this with your doctor.

**Where will I be attending for my next appointment (including contact details?)**

**When is this appointment?**