

POST-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS (PEP) GUIDELINE FOR SUPPLY TO ADULTS FOR USE IN POTENTIAL EMERGENCIES OVERSEAS

Background

Pharmacy occasionally receives requests to supply Post Exposure Prophylaxis packs for Healthcare Professionals, including students on electives, going overseas to work in areas where prompt access to the recommended medications may not be guaranteed in the event of an HIV risk prone incident.

Department of Health guidance should be followed – see reference links below.

This request should be viewed in the same way as a private prescription supplied by a GP for prophylactic medication (e.g. malaria tablets) for travellers. The individual pays for the supply as this should not be prescribed on the NHS. However some employers and medical, dental and nursing schools may have provision for reimbursement to the individual.

Mechanism for obtaining a PEP pack on a prophylactic basis

GPs and Community pharmacies do not currently prescribe or supply HIV medications in Grampian therefore any supplies must be made via Occupational Health Services (GO Health Services) at Foresterhill. (Supplies cannot be made direct from ARI Pharmacy as there are no systems set up to accept payment.)

1. Individual should contact GO Health Services direct (tel: 553663) and request an appointment with a prescriber. (They may initially wish to contact a member of the clinical team in the ARI Infection Unit (ward 111) for advice on the appropriateness of the request.)
2. If the request is deemed appropriate then GO Health Services will order a PEP pack from ARI Pharmacy Procurement.
3. The individual will require to return to GO Health Services to pay for and collect the pack.

Details of pre-pack available (for adults > 18 years) containing 7 day supply:

14 x Raltegravir 400mg tablets - *One tablet twice daily*

7 x Truvada (tenofovir 245mg / emtricitabine 200mg) – *One tablet daily*

Cost

Approximate cost for the PEP pack in 2015 ≈ £255

Current cost will be determined at the time of supply.

Note:

Supplies should be made only a few weeks prior to travel date due to the limited expiry date of the pre-packs. If PEP necessary this regime should continue for 28 days.

References:

1. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/eaga-guidance-on-hiv-post-exposure-prophylaxis>
2. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/351633/Change_to_recommended_regimen_for_PEP_starter_pack_final.pdf