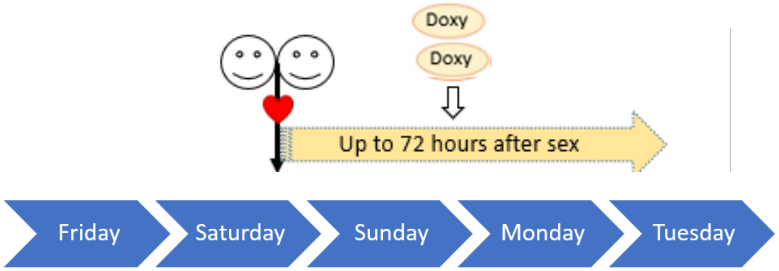
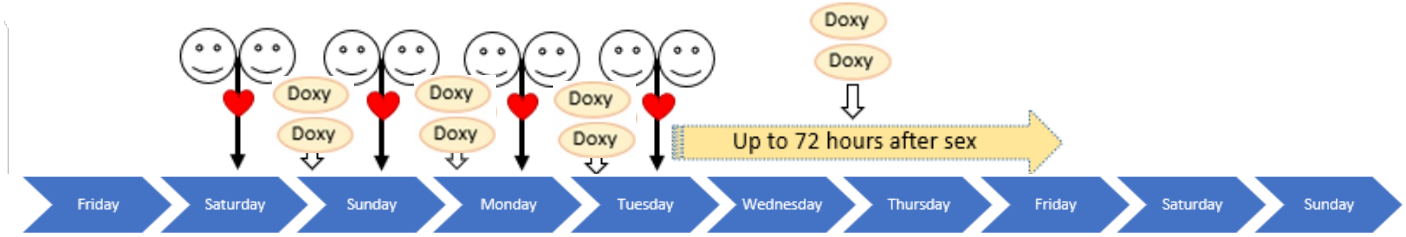
How to Take Doxycycline Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (DoxyPEP)

Two 100 milligram tablets of doxycycline should be taken within 24 hours but no later than 72 hours after condomless oral, anal, or vaginal/front hole sex, including when a condom is not used for the entire time. Below are examples of when DoxyPEP should be taken based on the frequency of condomless sexual activity.

Symbol for Sex Without a Condom



Example of when DoxyPEP should be taken after one instance of condomless sex. In this figure, condomless sexual activity occurred on Saturday so doxycycline should be taken ideally by Sunday but at the very latest by Tuesday.



Example of when DoxyPEP should be taken if condomless sexual activity is occurring daily.
If sexual activity is happening daily from Saturday-Tuesday, doxycycline should be taken daily starting by Sunday-Tuesday.
The last dose can be taken up to 72 hours after last contact. Do not take more than 200 mg every 24 hours.

Adapted from San Francisco City Clinic
December 2024 | www.hiv.va.gov/patient/sexually-transmitted-infections.asp

VA | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs