

ENDING HIV

ARE YOU PREGNANT OR THINKING ABOUT GETTING PREGNANT? IT'S IMPORTANT THAT YOU TEST FOR HIV. ASK YOUR GP, OBSTETRICIAN OR MIDWIFE

To help protect the health of mothers and their babies, all pregnant women need to be tested for HIV even where there are no known risks. HIV is transmitted via blood or sexual contact, and can be passed on from mother to baby. People infected with HIV may have no symptoms for months or many years.

Although few women are infected with HIV, testing is recommended for all pregnant women because:

- + HIV has serious health implications for anyone infected.
- + HIV can be passed on from a mother to her baby.
- + Safe and effective treatments are available for HIV.
- + Treating early can dramatically reduce harms to a mother and her baby.
- + HIV treatment will greatly reduce the risk of a mother infecting her baby.
- + Early diagnosis means other steps can be taken to support the baby's health before and after the birth.
- + HIV positive women on treatment are able to safely plan their families, have the number of children they choose, remain well and live a healthy life.

For free and confidential sexual health support and information, call the NSW Sexual Health Infolink on 1800 451 624 or go to www.health.nsw.gov.au/endinghiv/Pages/default.aspx



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