Prescribing nPEP
(non-occupational HIV post-exposure prophylaxis)

Key concepts for providers:

1. Early initiation of nPEP is essential! Evaluate persons rapidly for nPEP when care is sought ≤72 hours after a potential exposure - the first dose needs to be given ASAP

2. Do an HIV test before initiating nPEP (if rapid testing is not possible, send blood to lab and initiate nPEP immediately – follow-up with results and patient asap – stopping nPEP only if test result is confirmed positive)

3. All persons offered nPEP should be prescribed a 28-day course of a 3-drug antiretroviral regimen, and given the first dose ON SITE ASAP after the exposure

4. Adherence to recommended dosing for 28 days without interruption is essential

5. Emphasize that severe adverse effects from nPEP are rare, but review possible side effects and reinforce the limitedness of such effects

6. Follow-up is important for additional counseling and monitoring

For clinician-to-clinician assistance with nPEP-related questions contact:

AETC National Clinician Consultation Center’s Post-Exposure Prophylaxis Hotline (PEPline): 888-HIV-4911 (888-448-4911)
9:00 AM - 9:00 PM ET, 7 days/week