

# How Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Prevents HIV Infection on the Cellular Level

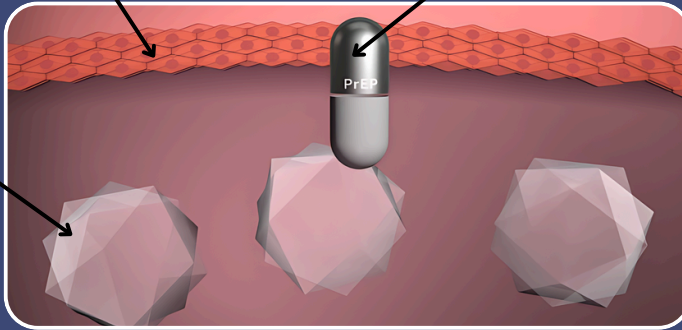
CD4 T Cell Membrane: the outer layer of a CD4 T cell

PrEP Pill Taken Daily

1.

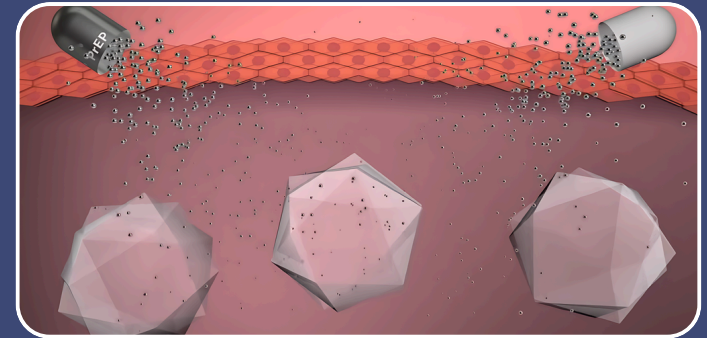
CD4 Cells

CD4 T cells fight off infections and keep you from getting sick



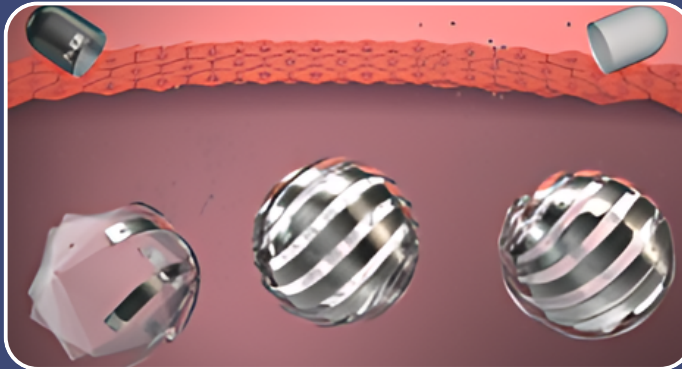
PrEP Starts to Attach to CD4 T Cells

2.



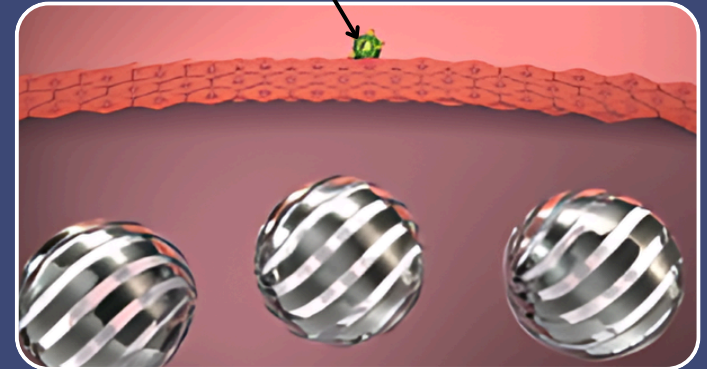
PrEP Forms a Protective Shield Around CD4 T Cells

3.

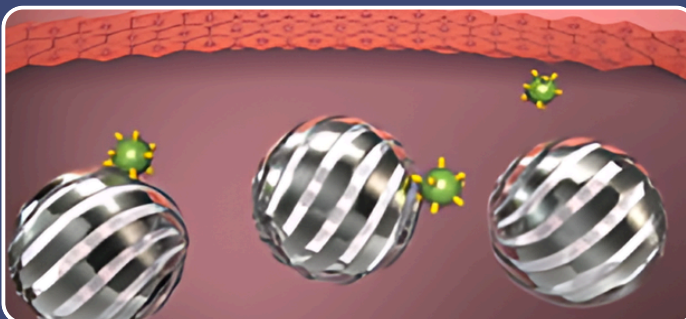


HIV Virus Penetrates the CD4 T Membrane

4.



5.



PrEP Shield PREVENTS the HIV Virus From Infecting the CD4 T Cells!

Source: K. Rivet Amico of U of Connecticut; S. Hosek and C. Balthasar of Stroger Hospital of Cook County of Chicago



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
**Public Health**