

Hey you...

Yeah...you...

Think you're AIDS aware?

"Yeah...I know about AIDS..."

"HIV..?...won't get me..."

Are you sure?

Most people don't know as much as they think

You might be surprised

You're not alone in the dark

Don't let SID get you...

"Who's SID..?"

SID works for HIV

HIV is the virus that can lead to AIDS

SID's powers are Stigma, Ignorance & Discrimination

SID uses its powers to catch us & keep us in the dark

Where HIV can hurt us

Don't let SID get you...

Got ten minutes to chat?

We're here...if you need help...

Come check us out

We'll arm you with the facts



Don't let SID get you...

Stigma: the negative & often untrue things people believe about HIV, AIDS & Aboriginal People Living with HIV/AIDS

Ignorance: in that most people don't know as much as they think they do

Discrimination: things people do to treat Aboriginal People Living with HIV/AIDS unfairly

What you need to know

Today

Aboriginal people are three times as likely to become infected as non-Aboriginal people

One Aboriginal person gets infected with HIV every day

Half of Aboriginal People Living with HIV/AIDS are female

Many people still believe that only "gay men" get HIV/AIDS

People at risk: Two-spirit (gay) males; Aboriginal inmate population; Aboriginal people in general

2005

3,600 to 5,100 Aboriginal persons living with HIV (including AIDS) in Canada

New HIV infections attributed to Injection Drug Use (IDU): Aboriginal (53%), non-Aboriginal (14%)

1998-'06

Positive HIV tests from persons under the age of 30: Aboriginal (32.4%), non-Aboriginal (21.0%)

Positive HIV tests from Aboriginal females (48.1%), from non-Aboriginal females (20.7%)

Cases where IDU most commonly-identified mode of HIV transmission among Aboriginal people (58.8%)

1979-'06

IDU-attributed AIDS cases: Aboriginal women (62.3%), Aboriginal men (41.3%)

Positive HIV tests from Aboriginal females attributed to IDU (64.4%); attributed to heterosexual exposure (34.1%)



Don't let SID get you...

Know the risks

You increase the risk of getting infected with HIV by:

- By having sex without using a condom
- By sharing an injection drug needle
- By exchanging bodily fluids

You increase the risk of developing AIDS by:

- Not getting tested immediately if you think you've been exposed

You can get infected with Hepatitis C (Hep C) by:

- By having sex without a condom
- By sharing an injection drug needle
- By coming into contact with bodily fluids

Know how to be safe

If you're thinking of having sex for the first time

- Get informed
- Be safe

If you think you might have been exposed to the HIV virus

- Stop engaging in risky behaviours
- Tell someone you trust
- Get tested right away
- Learn how you can live with HIV. It's not an automatic death sentence anymore



Don't let SID get you...

We should be concerned

Because more accurate numbers are difficult to pin down

Many who have HIV don't get tested

Not all provinces report ethnicity in their HIV/AIDS data

Given the high birth rate among Aboriginal peoples, the problem can only get worse

Most Aboriginal people don't know they're at risk

HIV can get anyone—from little babies to grannies & grampas

HIV/AIDS may become the invisible epidemic in our communities if nothing is done to stem the tide

But we can beat SID...

At CAAN, we work

To prevent further infections

To provide support for testing & diagnosis

To promote care & treatment of Aboriginal People living with HIV/AIDS

If you want to help us reach our objectives, be a leader: use your strong voice

Help generate awareness by informing your family & friends

Speak publicly about the risks & how we can easily protect ourselves

Get tested

Encourage your family & friends to get tested

Sign our online petition calling for more awareness, support & treatment

Encourage others to sign our online petition



Don't let SID get you...