



## Provide Free nPEP for Sexual Assault Survivors

[Altruix](#), a high-touch pharmacy dedicated to the Maryland community, provides Non-Occupational Post Exposure Prophylaxis (nPEP) free of charge to victims of sexual assault and rape (referred to as patients throughout this document) in Maryland. This program is offered in conjunction with [The Maryland Hospital Association](#), [The Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth and Victim Services](#) and the [Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault](#).

### Your Patient's Well-Being Comes First

Physicians and prescribers can take comfort in knowing that this program is designed with the patient's well-being in mind. We help patients focus solely on their recovery and healing during this difficult time by

- Removing the burden for your patient of having to go to a pharmacy.
- Eliminating the worry of wondering if your patient can afford treatment or concern about getting coverage through insurance.
- Streamlining the process for prescribers. Submit one form and we take care of the rest. You can rest assured that your patient will get the treatment they need.
- Filling and shipping prescriptions fast so patients don't have to worry about the 72-hour exposure window.
- Convenient and discreet delivery for patients. We offer flexible shipping options to ensure that each patient receives their prescription at the best location for them.

### How Do I Get Free nPEP for My Patient?

The program is easy and free through Altruix. Completely fill out the nPEP/HIV Prophylaxis Treatment Reimbursement [Claim & Prescription Form](#). The form is used in conjunction with the [SAFE Guidance Document](#), which provides guidance on prescribing nPEP.

Send the completed [Claim & Prescription Form](#) to Altruix by email to [meds@terpsrx.com](mailto:meds@terpsrx.com) or by fax to **877-829-1925**.

### What are the Guidelines for the Program?

The Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services: Sexual Assault Reimbursement Unit (SARU) provides [Guidelines](#) which must be followed while filling out the [Claim & Prescription Form](#). Only patients who are survivors of sexual assault are eligible. While all patients must be evaluated for HIV exposure risk per clinical guidelines, a full sexual assault forensic exam (SAFE) does not need to be provided to the patient in order for them to be eligible for free nPEP.

## More Information

### What is nPEP?

nPEP, or non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis, is the use of antiretroviral medication to prevent HIV infection in HIV-negative patients who have had a recent exposure to HIV.

Such an exposure typically occurs through unprotected sexual contact or needle sharing\* with someone who has or might have HIV. Non-occupational nPEP is a term used in relation to non-work related exposure.

### nPEP is for Emergency Situations

- nPEP is given after a possible exposure to HIV.
- nPEP is not a substitute for regular use of other HIV prevention.

nPEP is not recommended for patients who have an ongoing risk of exposure to HIV. In these cases, alternate prophylaxis regimens including PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis), may be indicated.

### nPEP Must Be Started Within 72 Hours of Possible Exposure to HIV

The CDC recommends that nPEP be started within 72 hours of exposure. Duration for prophylaxis treatment after exposure is 28 days.

## About Altruix

Altruix is a high-touch pharmacy dedicated to behavioral health and intellectual and developmental disability populations. The company's pharmacy expertise, Medherent technology, and special packaging promote medication adherence.

Altruix provides value-added services that help clients take their medications as prescribed without having to juggle pill bottles, while physicians and staff spend less time managing medications, getting essential information, and dealing with errors.

For more information, visit [www.altruix.com](http://www.altruix.com).

## I Have Questions. Who Should I Reach Out To?

If you have any questions about this program, reach out to:

### Rachael Owens

*PharmD, Pharmacist in Charge at Altruix*

[rowens@terpsrx.com](mailto:rowens@terpsrx.com)

443-837-0200

## Helpful Resources

- [Prescription Form](#)
- [SAFE Guidance Document](#)
- [Side Effects](#)
- [Prescribing PEP](#)
- [nPEP-Related Questions Hotline](#)
- [Comprehensive CDC Guidelines](#)
- [Find a Maryland Rape Crisis Center](#)
- [Patient Guide \(English\)](#)
- [Patient Guide \(Spanish\)](#)

\* Maryland's program does not offer nPEP for needle sharing.

If you are unsure of where to seek help, contact **211** or visit [211md.org](http://211md.org)