



**CONSISTENCY
IS KEY**



What's up? My name is Kevin, an 18 year old black guy living in Milwaukee. I just came out of the closet last year and it was the biggest hurdle of my life. Since I came out I feel so free! I've been exploring what it means to be gay, and I've been having sex with guys, seeing what I'm into and what I'd rather stay away from.

My gay mother has been a pillar in my life since coming out. She ensures that I get tested on a regular basis by taking me and my siblings "in the life" to get tested every three months as a family.

The first time she took me to get tested I found out I had chlamydia. The doctor told me how crucial it is that I protect myself while having sex. I told him that for the most part I use condoms, but every now and then I do have unprotected sex. The doctor recommended that I get on PrEP to prevent me from contracting HIV. He gave me a full screening including checking my kidney levels and once my lab results were ready, he gave my first month's supply of the medicine, Truvada.

I took the pill for a few days but eventually forgot about it. Three months passed by and I was due for testing. As usual, my Mother was on my phone

demanding I get dressed for the family testing day. I went to the doctor and to my surprise, again, I had chlamydia! The doctor asked me, had I been taking my PrEP (Truvada) everyday as prescribed, I told him no. He explained to me that just like I was exposed to chlamydia, I could have easily been exposed to HIV, something I'd be able to live with, but never get rid of. Upon his counsel I went to Walgreens and bought a weekly pill holder. Now I know I won't forget to take my pill.



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