

OCTOBER 2020

THE PATIENT PRESCRIPTION

Your Health Begins Here

Suicide Prevention

1 in 5 Adults experience a mental illness in any one year



While Suicide Prevention Awareness Month is over, every day is an opportunity to provide hope.

[Click to learn more today.](#)

PrEP Now Available in Primary Care

Are you PrEPared?

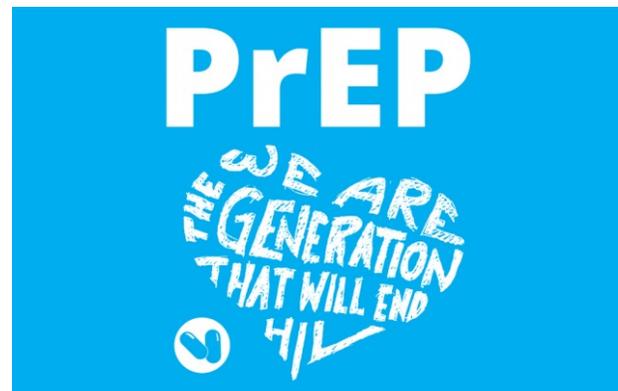
We're not talking about getting cute masks, sanitizer, and gloves for COVID. We are not even talking about buying water, flashlights, and non-perishables for hurricane season. Yes, all of those are super important, but what we are talking about is are you prepared for HIV?

With 1.2 million people living with HIV in the United States, it is important you prevent yourself from becoming a statistic, especially if you live a life that puts you at risk for HIV. Those risk factors include:

- multiple sexual partners or a partner who has multiple partners
- HIV status of partner(s) is unknown or is HIV+
- injecting drugs or sharing needles
- had a previous sexually transmitted infection
- in an abusive relationship where condom negotiation is not feasible

If you fall into any of those categories, you have nothing to be ashamed of. There is help! PrEP is short for pre-exposure prophylaxis. It is a once-daily pill a doctor can prescribe to prevent HIV. As long as a risk for HIV is present, you continue taking this pill. If your situation changes, you should have a conversation with your doctor about whether or not it is a good idea to stop the medication.

Currently, Descovy and Truvada are the only two medications approved for PrEP in the United



States. Both are 99 percent effective at preventing HIV when taken properly. Follow up appointments and lab work are required every three months while taking PrEP. This helps ensure the drug is interacting with your body safely and you remain HIV negative.

To learn more about PrEP talk to your primary care provider or see a member of the Prevention or PrEP team. We are here to help.

The HopeHealth Podcast

Rheumatology is available at the HopeHealth Medical Plaza in Florence and HopeHealth in Manning.

Not sure what rheumatology is?

Listen to the [HopeHealth Podcast](#) as Dr. Supen Patel and Dr. J. Harrell Docherty, Jr. explain what they do!

**HopeHealth
Podcast**

COVID-19 UPDATE - HopeHealth Mask Policy

All HopeHealth employees, patients, and visitors must wear masks.

It mandatory for all employees, patients, and visitors to wear masks while within HopeHealth facilities. Please wear a mask when coming to your appointment. Patients declining to wear masks may schedule TeleVisits or call for other options.



Annual "Thank a Vet" Art Contest Now Open

The annual Veterans with Hope "Thank a Vet" art contest runs now through Nov. 1

Two age groups: Ages 12 and under | Ages 13-18

Age group prizes: First place: \$100 gift card | Second Place: \$50 gift card

Free art kits will be available beginning Sept. 19 for as long as supplies last.

Email veterans@hope-health.org for more information.

Submissions must reflect a gratitude and appreciation for our current and former military personnel and the sacrifices made for our freedom. Artists may include a description of up to 250 words to explain their piece. Entries must be mailed to or dropped off at any HopeHealth location by Nov. 1.

Submission Deadline is Nov. 1

HopeHealth QuickLinks

Accessing Care From Home

HopeHealth offers a secure Patient Portal for those who wish to participate in telehealth services using a smartphone or computer. Visit hope-health.org/televisit for more information.

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hope-health.org

Support Community Health Centers at hcadvocacy.org. Become an Advocate Today!