

# HIV

HIV is a virus that enters your body through body fluids. Once it has entered your body it attacks it, making it difficult for your body to fight other illnesses.

## HIV CAN BE TRANSMITTED THROUGH...



Sexual Contact



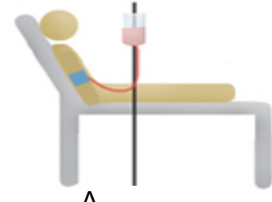
Pregnancy, Childbirth & Breast Feeding



Injection Drug Use



Occupational Exposure



A  
Blood Transfusion/Organ Transplant

Photo by: <http://www.healthcabins.com/hiv-transmission-rates.html>

## How does HIV work?

1. Primary HIV Infection: appearance of flu-like symptoms such as fever, headaches, sore throat, excessive fatigue, chills from as early as two weeks to as late as a decade
2. Latency period: lack of symptoms lasting for 8-10 years
3. Chronic period: varying ongoing symptoms of coughing, breathing difficulties, weight loss, diarrhea, fatigue, high fever
4. Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS); HIV has destroyed your immune system making your body unable to defend itself from other illnesses

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Make sure that all girls have the right to go to school
- Make sure that boys and girls are treated equally
- Respect everyone no matter who they are
- Treat everyone the way you want to be treated

## How you can't get infected

- Through the air
- Through hugging and kissing
- Through sharing of food
- Touching someone