

## Sexual assault management

### HIV PEP

If indicated, start PEP (post-exposure prophylaxis) within 1h

Do not use if patient known to be HIV positive

### What patients should know

- Transmission of HIV through rape is rare in the UK
- PEP - a 4 week course of three antiretroviral drugs (two of them often provided in a single tablet) - may reduce the already small risk again by 80%
- Use of the drugs is not licensed for this purpose but established medical practice
- Gastrointestinal side effects are common. Patients are therefore routinely provided with antiemetics and antidiarrhoeals to take as necessary
- Women taking the oral contraceptive pill should use additional methods of contraception as PEP may make the pill ineffective

### Prescriber notes

- Explain rationale and side-effects of PEP; provide patient with written information if available
- Patient must give consent and agree to attend GUM clinic (or SARC - sexual assault referral centre) for follow-up within 3 days (6 if bank holiday)
- Seek advice from on-call virologist or HIV physician if patient pregnant or taking any regular medication
- Otherwise, prescribe 3 days (6 if bank holiday) of
  - Combivir 1 tablet BD
  - Kaletra 2 tablets BD
  - Domperidone one tablet PRN up to 3x daily
  - Loperamide 2mg PRN up to - 8mg 3x daily
 Most hospitals provide readymade 3-day packs that may vary in content - prescribe as available

