

## **PrEP Care Clinic at Family Health Care**

PrEP Care clinic for HIV prevention at Southwest Boulevard Family Health Care (Family Health CARE)

Kansas City, Kansas July 2014

Human Immunodeficiency Viral (HIV) infection prevention through pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) involves the daily use of anti-HIV pills by HIV- negative individuals to reduce their risk of becoming infected with HIV.

Two years ago, in July 2012, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the use of tenofovir + emtricitabine (TDF/FTC) for HIV PrEP in adults who are at high risk for becoming HIV-infected. In May 2014, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released its guidelines for the use of daily pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for the prevention of HIV infection. Several studies have shown that PrEP can reduce the risk of becoming HIV-infected when taken as part of a package of prevention services.

Dr. Sharon Lee, of Family Health CARE, was an invited consultant at the 2010 HIV Prevention Leadership Summit, the 2011 National HIV Prevention Conference, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's April 2011 Consultation which resulted in the federal "Recommendations for HIV Prevention with Adults and Adolescents with HIV". These and other guidelines recommend making PrEP available to people at high risk for HIV infection.

Family Health CARE is establishing a new clinic, PrEP CARE, which will be one of the first clinics in the nation to provide this medication for uninfected individuals not involved in a study. Family Health CARE is reaching out to people who are not willing to change all risky behaviors, but are willing to use this and other safer sex methods to reduce the risk of acquiring HIV.

As explained by Dr Lee, "This is a prophylactic medicine, not a treatment. Similar to birth control pills, it does not treat a disease state, but may help prevent an unwanted effect of behavior. It is our hope that access to this preventive medicine will save lives."

The PrEP CARE clinic will open by appointment only on July 25 at the Family Health CARE, located at Rainbow and Southwest Boulevard. For additional information, or to make an appointment, please call Family Health CARE at 913-722-3100.