

## Can I get HIV from receiving the experimental vaccine?

**N**o you CANNOT get HIV from the experimental vaccine. The experimental vaccines are NOT made from the HIV or from blood or other parts of HIV infected people. They DO NOT contain live, weakened, or killed HIV. Therefore, you CANNOT get HIV/AIDS from receiving the HIV vaccine.

## What can I expect if I volunteer for an HIV vaccine trial?

Participation in HIV vaccine trials is completely voluntary. If you volunteer you will receive:

- Information about the vaccine study and have it explained to you
- An informed consent form, which once you sign, is your official agreement to take part in the study;
- An initial visit for blood testing, including an HIV test; and medical examination
- A few doses of the vaccine we are testing or another substance that has no vaccine or medicine in it
- Follow up visits with study nurses, doctors, and counselors
- Counseled about how you can reduce behaviours that put you at risk for HIV infection.

Remember there is no guarantee that the experimental vaccine will protect you against HIV. Therefore, it is important that you

**USE A CONDOM EVERY TIME** you have sex.



Male Condom



Female Condom

## Who looks after my interest?

The HIV vaccine trials are conducted under strict international standards and are monitored frequently to ensure that research is conducted at the highest level and that the rights and welfare of participants are protected. The HIV Vaccine Trial is approved by the Ethics Committees of the University of the West Indies, Faculty of Medical Sciences and the Ministry of Health. In addition, a Community Advisory Board (CAB) made up of a wide cross-section of persons from the community, advises researchers on issues about vaccine research which may be of concern to participants and the community. In other words, the CAB is an advocate for volunteers.

## Who is sponsoring the trials?

The trials are being conducted at the Epidemiology Research and Training Unit of the Ministry of health located on the Comprehensive Health Centre compound. The trials are sponsored by the HIV Vaccine Trials Network (HVTN), based in Seattle, Washington, USA and funded by the National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases of The National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, USA.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING, COME AND TALK WITH US. WE WILL BE HAPPY TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS.

## For further information:

Please visit us at:  
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(ERTU)

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# HIV

## VACCINE RESEARCH IN JAMAICA

Hope for controlling the AIDS Epidemic

