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Information on AIDS in Camden Libraries

If you are concerned about AIDS, this leaflet can help. It lists the best books on the subject, along with other sources of information in Camden libraries. It includes a list of clinics where you can be tested for antibodies to the HIV virus, plus helpful organisations which can supply information and/or counselling.

What is AIDS?

The initials stand for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. This can develop as a result of infection by a virus known as HIV (Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus). Not all individuals who are infected with the virus go on to develop AIDS. Some may develop less severe illnesses which are not fatal. Others may have no symptoms at all and may be unaware that they have the virus.

How is the virus spread?

The virus is passed on by penetrative sex with an infected person or by taking infected blood into your own bloodstream (for example, by injecting yourself with a contaminated syringe). Although the virus has been found in many body fluids, cases involving the blood being passed to someone else have only been through blood, semen, vaginal fluids and possibly breast milk. Infection is not spread through the air, by touch, or by sharing objects which have been used by a person who has the virus.

Advice on safer sex can be found in the books, leaflets and videos listed in this leaflet.

BOOKS ABOUT AIDS

These are the best books on AIDS available in Camden libraries:

The AIDS Epidemic

Kevin Cahill

Hutchinson, 1984

Academic approach to the subject for professionals or anyone who wants more technical information on AIDS and the issues surrounding the disease.

AIDS

Victor G. Daniels MTP Press, 1987

A thorough medical description of AIDS and who can get it.

AIDS: questions and answers

Victor G. Daniels

Cambridge Medical Books, 1987
A short, easily understood guide to AIDS, in a question and answer format. It describes what AIDS is, who can get it and how. There is some information on helping someone who has AIDS, but has no advice

on coping if you have the disease yourself.

AIDS and the blood

Peter Jones

Haemophilia Society, 1985

Short booklet concentrating on AIDS information for haemophiliacs. It contains simple, commonsense answers to questions about the disease, how to avoid getting it, and how to cope if you have it.

Panic: the story of AIDS

Robin McKie

Thorsons, 1986

Account of the development of AIDS and its treatment in the media. Written in a journalistic style, it makes interesting background reading.

AIDS: a guide to survival

Peter Tatchell

Gay Men's Press, 1986

This is the only book specifically and

wholly aimed at helping AIDS sufferers and friends fight the disease. It takes a holistic approach, emphasizing the use of a positive attitude in helping control it.

AIDS concerns you

Dr. Jonathan Weber/Annabel Ferriman Pagoda, 1986

Short and simple guide to AIDS in a question and answer format. It is easy to read, and is especially good at dismissing some of the myths connected with the disease.

VIDEOS

AIDS: the reality and the myth

Michael Ellis

Masterclass, 1986/VHS 60 mins.

Very thorough presentation on all aspects of AIDS by two doctors. The video starts with a clear description of the disease, who can get it, and goes on to describe the medical treatment for AIDS, which is not described in detail in any of the books. It dispels some of the myths surrounding AIDS in a reassuring way, and gives full information on how to avoid infection. None of the visual information is sexually explicit.

A plague on you

Lesbian and Gay Media Group, 1985 VHS 28 mins.

Lesbian and Gay Media Group's brilliant assault on the media's portrayal of AIDS as a "gay plague". The film provides cool facts on what AIDS is and how it can be avoided.

ARTICLES

The following magazines have regular articles on AIDS. Library staff will be happy to look these up for you.

Capital Gay

Gay Times

New Society

New Statesman

LEAFLETS

Free copies of these leaflets are available in all Camden Libraries.

AIDS and HIV

AIDS: a resource list

AIDS: don't die of ignorance

AIDS: how drug users can avoid it

AIDS: more facts for gay men

AIDS: the facts

AIDS: what everybody needs to know

AIDS: what you must know before you

give blood

Children at school and problems related to

AIDS

Facts about AIDS for drug users

Haemofact sheets

Housing advice for people with AIDS

Is it safe — the chalice and AIDS

Sex is great

Women and AIDS

HOW TO GET HELP

Clinics

James Pringle House Genito-Urinary Clinic

Middlesex Hospital, 73-75 Charlotte St. W1 Tel: 580 6584

Clinic for sexually transmitted diseases. HIV testing available, plus pre-test counselling.

Jefferiss Research Wing Trust

Praed Street Clinic

St. Mary's Hospital, Praed St. W2 1NX

Tel: 725 1603

AIDS and venereal disease research trust. Special wing in hospital for AIDS patients.

Marlborough Department of Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Royal Free Hospital, Pond St. NW3 1SQ Tel: 794 0500 extn. 3620 Clinic for sexually transmitted diseases. HIV testing available, plus pre-test counselling.

Praed St. Clinic

Praed St. W2 1NX

Tel: 725 1697

Clinic for sexually transmitted diseases. HIV testing available, plus pre-test counselling.

University College Hospital Genito-Urinary Clinic

University College Hospital, Gower St. WC1 Tel: 388 9625

Clinic for sexually transmitted diseases. Phone for appointment. HIV testing and pre-test counselling available.

Helpful Organisations

AIDS Information Service

Tel: 407 5522

0800 535535 (Freephone 24 hours)

AIDS information service run by DHSS.

Body Positive

c/o Terrence Higgins Trust BM AIDS, London WC1N 3XX

Tel: 831 0330

Support organisation and counselling for people who are HIV positive, their friends, partners and relatives.

Camden Council

Environmental Health & Consumer Services Dept.

AIDS Information Officers Clifton House, 83 Euston Rd, NW1 2RA Tel: 387 3456 extn. 248 For information about AIDS and HIV infection-related issues, contact John Henry

Christian Action on AIDS

P.O. Box 76, Hereford, HR1 1JX

Tel: (0432) 268167

or Brian Sharpe.

Keeps religious bodies informed about AIDS and aims to draw from them the positive support that those suffering from AIDS have a right to demand.

Frontliners

c/o Terrence Higgins Trust BM AIDS, London WC1N 3XX Tel: 831 0330

A self help working group run by people with AIDS for those with AIDS and ARC (AIDS related complex).

Gay Bereavement Project

Tel: 837 7324 (24 hours) Bereavement counselling

Haemophilia Society

123 Westminster Bridge Rd, SE1 7HR

Tel: 928 2020

Help and advice for haemophilia sufferers, their friends, partners and families.

Lesbian and Gay Switchboard

c/o BM Switchboard WC1N 3XX

Tel: 837 7324 (24 hours)

Will answer general enquiries about AIDS, and put you in touch with local support groups.

London Friend

86 Caledonian Rd, N1 Tel: 359 7371 (19.30-22.00) Telephone advice by men for gay and bisexual people.

London Lighthouse

178 Lancaster Rd, W11 1QU

Tel: 221 6513

Organisation concerned with activities to support people affected by AIDS, and those who work with them. Activities include teaching, co-counselling and a volunteer training programme. Open lecture on the first Sunday of each month.

National Advisory Service on AIDS

Tel: 0800 567123

10.00-22.00 seven days a week. Free telephone service for people seeking advice about AIDS. Counselling and referral to other agencies.

PACE (Project for Advice, Counselling and Education)

London Lesbian and Gay Centre 67-69 Cowcross St. ECIM 6BP

Tel: 251 2689

Face to face counselling for gay men for AIDS and HIV, before and after medical tests. Also counselling for the "worried well".

SCODA (Standing Conference on Drug Abuse)

1-4 Hatton Place, off Hatton Garden, EC1N 8ND

Tel: 430 2341/2

Contact the AIDS Information Officer for information on services and referral.

Terrence Higgins Trust

BM AIDS, London WC1N 3XX
Tel: 242 1010 (Helpline)
Helpline 15.00-22.00 every day. The office
number is 831 0330. Information and

advice on AIDS, face to face counselling, many support groups, and buddying scheme providing trained volunteer help for AIDS sufferers.

HEALTHLINE

Health Information Trust 18 Victoria Park Square, E2

Tel: 980 4848

Confidential telephone information service using recorded tapes with 2-6 minutes of details on over 200 health topics. Calls are charged at the usual rate. Call the number above and ask for any of these tapes on AIDS:

- 228 AIDS Information service: guide to the HEALTHLINE tapes
- 240 AIDS and artificial insemination
- 239 AIDS and blood transfusions
- 241 AIDS: how you can help someone who has AIDS
- 231 AIDS: information for young people
- 232 AIDS: symptoms and signs
- 230 AIDS: testing for AIDS
- 136 AIDS: what is AIDS?
- 229 AIDS: who is at risk of contracting AIDS?
- 237 Safer sex for drug users worried about AIDS
- 235 Safer sex for gay men and bisexuals worried about AIDS
- 236 Safer sex for haemophiliacs worried about AIDS
- 234 Safer sex for heterosexuals worried about AIDS

CAMDEN'S LIBRARIES

Swiss Cottage Library 88 Avenue Rd, NW3 3HA Tel: 586 5989

Holborn Library 32-38 Theobald's Rd, WC1X 8PA Tel: 405 2705

St. Pancras Library 100 Euston Rd, NW1 2AJ Tel: 278 4444

Belsize Branch Library Antrim Rd, NW3 4XN Tei: 722 1186

Heath Branch Library Keats Grove, NW3 2RR Tel: 435 8002

Kilburn Branch Library Cotleigh Rd, NW6 2NP Tei: 624 4427

West Hampstead Branch Library Dennington Park Rd, NW6 1AU Tel: 435 3660

High Holborn Branch Library 198 High Holborn, WC1V 7BD Tel: 405 6866

Camden Town Branch Library 12 Camden High St, NW1 0JH Tel: 387 1976

Chalk Farm Branch Library Sharpleshall St, NW1 8YN Tel: 722 5571

Highgate Branch Library Chester Rd, N19 5DH Tel: 272 3112

Kentish Town Branch Library 262-6 Kentish Town Rd, NW5 2AA Tel: 485 1121

Queen's Crescent Branch Library 165 Queen's Crescent, NW5 4HH Tel: 485 4551

Regent's Park Branch Library Compton Close, Robert St, NW1 3QT Tel: 387 8544 Published by Community Information Services London Borough of Camden Libraries & Arts Department. Tel: 278 4444 Ext. 2527

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