

# THE GREENS CALL FOR ACCESS TO PREP, RAPID HIV TESTS AND HOME SELF-TESTS

Federal and State Governments have committed to a target to end new HIV infections in Australia by 2020. While we've seen great progress in the fight to eliminate HIV transmission, it's essential that we continue to look at new treatments that more effectively prevent new infections, particularly within the most at-risk communities.

**The Greens believe that Australians should have access to the HIV prevention medication, PrEP (Pre-exposure Prophylaxis).** There is now a strong evidence base and consensus amongst Australian NGOs that are experts in the field of HIV care and control that PrEP is a vital tool for HIV prevention.

While PrEP trials are currently underway in NSW, regulatory barriers to widespread access remain in place.

We're calling on our Federal Government to expedite removing the barriers preventing people from accessing PrEP - particularly the Therapeutic Goods Administration's review process, which has delayed making a decision on the drug until May.

The Greens' Federal spokesperson for Sexuality and Marriage Equality, Senator Robert Simms, has raised the urgent need for access to PrEP in parliament, also calling for access to rapid HIV tests and home self-tests, other important tools for HIV prevention.



Greens MPs Senator Robert Simms, Senator Lee Rhiannon and Member for Newtown Jenny Leong

## THE FACTS:

- In 2014, there were 1080 infections in Australia with about 750 of these amongst men who have sex with men.
- Each new infection and lifelong treatment brings significant health and personal impacts, with lifelong costs estimated at \$200,000 to \$300,000 per person.
- There is wide consensus that PrEP can be extremely effective at reducing the risk of HIV transmission.
- France is the latest jurisdiction to announce wide-scale access to PrEP, with many other cities and states already having arrangements in place.
- Australia's Therapeutic Goods Association recently pushed back their deadline to make PrEP available in Australia from March to May.

Will you stand with us?

Sign up to get involved at [www.jennyleong.org/LGBTIQcommunity](http://www.jennyleong.org/LGBTIQcommunity)

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## THE GREENS ARE WORKING TO:

- ▲ Achieve full equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people, acknowledging and celebrating the unique and vibrant diversity of their communities
- ▲ Protect individuals from discrimination and vilification, by eliminating all discriminatory laws and exemptions in the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act
- ▲ Make marriage equality a reality through the Federal Parliament – without the need for a plebiscite – to ensure equal rights for all consenting adult relationships, regardless of sex, gender or intersex status
- ▲ Combat the serious problem of bullying in schools by improving anti-homophobia, anti-biphobia, anti-transphobia and anti-intersexphobia policies
- ▲ Better resource training and peer support services and promote inclusiveness in curriculum at all levels of the education system
- ▲ Defend the rights of transgender and intersex people so that they don't face discrimination, harassment or disadvantage
- ▲ See a strong commitment from government to addressing the over-representation of mental illness and suicide amongst LGBTIQ people
- ▲ Ensure funding for research and programs that address family and domestic violence in LGBTIQ communities and increase funding for rural and regional support services

## THE GREENS

ARE PROUD TO STAND WITH THE LGBTIQ COMMUNITIES



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