



HIV & AIDS

What's the difference?

HIV May not have Symptoms Still Spreadable

- HIV is the virus that causes HIV infection.
- HIV damages the immune system by killing CD4 cells.

CD4 Cells

- CD4 cells are part of the immune system
- HIV attacks and kills CD4 cells.
- Loss of CD4 cells makes it hard for the body to fight off infections

AIDS Symptoms Tend to Become Serious Still Spreadable

- AIDS is the last stage of HIV infection.
- As HIV infection advances to AIDS, the amount of HIV in the body increases and the number of CD4 cells decreases.
- HIV medicines can stop HIV infection from advancing to AIDS.
- Without HIV medicines, HIV advances to AIDS in about 10 years.
- ART (Antiretroviral treatment) can prevent HIV from spreading, and prevent HIV from advancing to AIDS.

If you engage in unprotected sex, have multiple sex partners, are involved in sex work, use drugs not prescribed by a doctor or trade sex for drugs or money, get tested!

For information call Clallam County Public Health: 360-417-2412