Who is at risk for HIV & which populations are most affected?

Anyone can contract HIV.

Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) is the virus that causes acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) and is transmitted through contact with infected blood and bodily fluids. Such contact can occur though unprotected sex, through mother-to-child transmission during pregnancy or breast feeding, and through receipt of infected blood transfusions and plasma products during medical care in some parts of the world. There is currently no cure for HIV/AIDS. Once an individual contracts HIV, he or she has it for life. If you feel you are at risk, get tested at one of our local public health testing sites.

MYTH #1
HIV is a death sentence.
With proper treatment, people with HIV can live a normal life span.

MYTH #2
You can tell someone has HIV/AIDS by looking at them.
With adequate treatment and medications symptoms will not be present.

MYTH #3
Straight people don’t have to worry about HIV
Heterosexuals account for 25% of new HIV cases.

#HIV.GOV