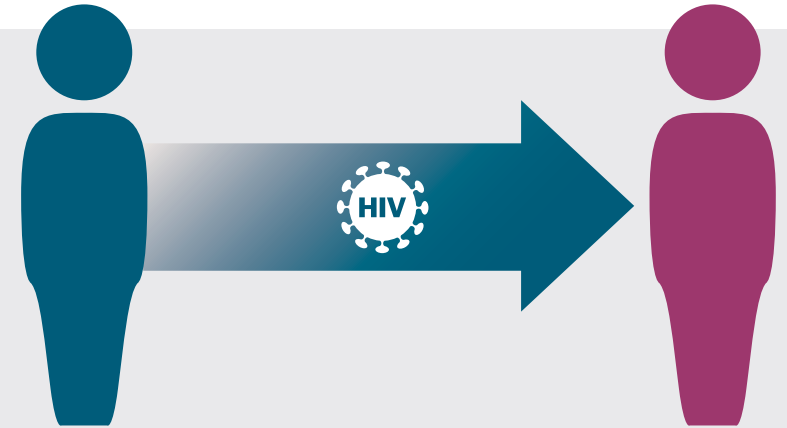


The basics

Transmission and the law



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This leaflet can be viewed in large format as a PDF.
Call NAM on 020 3242 0820.



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Notes

If you are involved in a case, do the following.

- Get confidential advice and support from an HIV organisation.
- Get expert legal advice. THT Direct (phone: 0808 802 1221) can put you in touch with specialist solicitors.
- Make sure you get expert legal advice as soon as possible and before you speak to the police.

This leaflet describes the law in England and Wales.

- In Northern Ireland the law is similar.
- In Scotland a person may be prosecuted even if they did not pass on HIV.
- Countries in other parts of the world have different laws. There is more information on our website at www.aidsmap.com/law-country and on the GNP+ website at www.gnpplus.net/criminalisation

Want to find out more?

For more information on this topic:

- read the NAT and THT leaflet 'Prosecutions for HIV transmission: a guide for people living with HIV in England and Wales';
- read our 'Transmission facts' and 'Transmission and viral load' leaflets; or
- speak to an adviser at THT Direct (phone: 0808 802 1221).

For more information about HIV

You can get free fact sheets, booklets, email bulletins and a newsletter from our website at www.aidsmap.com/resources. You can get answers to common questions at www.aidsmap.com/hiv-basics and find local services at www.aidsmap.com/e-atlas.

Contact us by calling 020 3242 0820 or by sending an email to info@nam.org.uk

Has this resource been useful to you?

Please let us know what you think by visiting our website at www.aidsmap.com/feedback, phoning us or sending an email to info@nam.org.uk. Your feedback helps us to improve the services we offer you.

You can contact us to find out more about the scientific research and information we have used to produce this leaflet.

We recommend that you discuss the information in this leaflet with a doctor or other health worker.

Some people have gone to prison because they have passed HIV on to another person.



When could someone be convicted of recklessly transmitting HIV?

A person could be found guilty if, when they have sex:



This is the law in England and Wales. See the 'notes' section for information on the law in other countries.

Important points

- The law is only broken if all five of these things are true.
- It's not against the law to have unsafe sex.
- It's not against the law not to tell your partner that you have HIV.
- A conviction can only happen if HIV is passed on.