

# The PARTNER 2 Study: a study for sero-different gay couples



Understanding the risk of  
HIV transmission when the  
HIV+ partner is on therapy



[www.chip.dk/partner](http://www.chip.dk/partner)

# Who can take part?

## You and your partner are eligible to take part in the study if:

- One of you is an HIV positive man and on treatment and the other is an HIV negative man
- You've had anal sex together without a condom in the last month
- You expect to have sex together again in the coming months

## Participating countries:

Austria	Italy
Belgium	Portugal
Denmark	Spain
Finland	Sweden
France	Switzerland
Germany	The Netherlands
Ireland	United Kingdom



# What will the study involve?

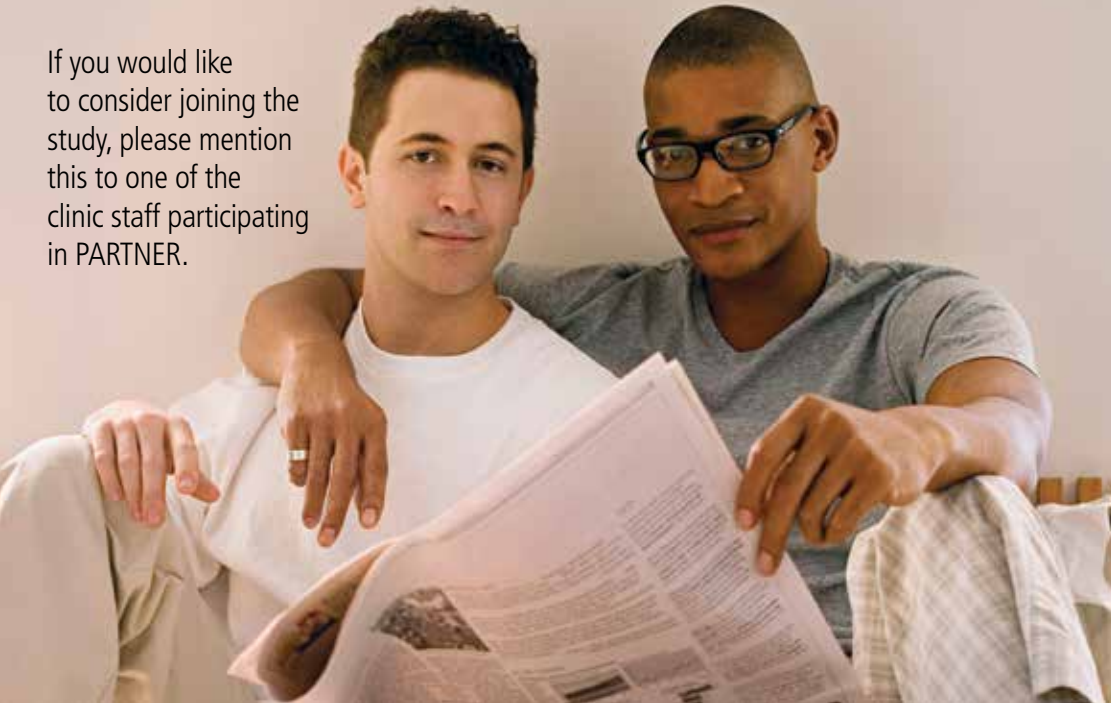
## If you and your partner decide to enter the study, then every 3-6 months for 3 years:

- Everyone is asked to complete a questionnaire on sexual behaviour with their partner.
- The negative partner is also tested for HIV

The questionnaires will be self-completed and confidential. They will not be seen by anyone at your clinic. Researchers at the study coordinating centre will only see a number and not your name.

If the negative partner becomes HIV positive during the study, you will both be asked for a blood sample. This is so to compare both viruses, but anonymously. This means that neither you nor your partner will be able to get these test results.

If you would like to consider joining the study, please mention this to one of the clinic staff participating in PARTNER.



# Why should you participate?

By taking part you will add to knowledge about HIV transmission. This will help you and others make choices based on better information. The results will also help improve sexual health services. Taken together, this could reduce the number of new HIV infections. The results of the study will be used worldwide.

## PARTNER 2

The PARTNER 2 study is an international European study. It is jointly funded by National Institute of Health Research UK, ViiV Healthcare, Augustinus-fonden and A.P. Møller fonden.

The study is coordinated by CHIP in collaboration with University College London (the sponsor) and The Royal Free Hampstead NHS Trust, London.

Everyone in the study is advised to use a condom each time they have sex

# What is the PARTNER 2 Study?

The PARTNER 2 study is enrolling gay couples where one partner is HIV positive and the other is HIV negative. The study is looking at the risks of HIV transmission when someone is taking effective HIV treatment.

Early results from the PARTNER study were reported in March 2014. No transmissions have occurred when the positive partner had a viral load that was less than 200 copies/mL. This was from almost 44,500 times when a condom was not used during sex, and included 21,000 times for anal sex. These results were from almost 900 couples, one third of which were gay men.

The early results are important but only included 7,750 times when the negative partner was receptive/bottom during anal sex. Extending PARTNER2 from 2014-2017 will mean that the final results will be more precise for gay men. The results will help individual decisions on condom use and help inform sexual health services.

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