

# WORDS RELATING TO AIDS

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ACQUIRED	a disease that a person can only catch from another person.
IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME	a breakdown in the body's system that fights off infection
VIRUS	collection of complaints that occur together a tiny germ that cannot be cured. Many diseases, such as measles, colds and chicken pox are caused by different kinds of viruses
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus. (This is the virus that can give a person AIDS.)
HIV positive CARRIER	a person who is "HIV positive" has the virus in his/her blood a person who has caught the HIV virus. S/he "carries" the virus in their blood. Although a "carrier" may not feel ill and will not know they have the virus unless they have a blood test, they can still pass the virus on to others
SYMPTOMS	these are the complaints that a person has when s/he is ill. For example, a runny nose is a "symptom" of flu
INCUBATION PERIOD	the time that passes between a person getting infected by the virus and first getting the symptoms of the disease
ANTIBODIES	when a person gets infected with a disease their body makes "antibodies" to fight off the disease
HETEROSEXUAL	someone who is attracted sexually to people of the opposite sex
HOMOSEXUAL (GAY)	someone who is attracted sexually to people of the same sex
LESBIAN	women who are sexually attracted to other women
STRAIGHT	a slang word referring to heterosexuals
ORAL SEX	using one's mouth to touch a partner's genitals
ANAL (rectal) SEX	the man's penis enters the anus of another man or woman
SEMEN	the fluid that comes out of the penis when a male ejaculates ("comes")
BLOOD DONATION	when someone allows his/her blood to be taken to be given to a sick person
ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION	sperm from a man is taken out his body and placed inside a woman's body to meet her egg. This is done by a doctor and the couple do not need to have sex
HIGH RISK ACTIVITIES	there are certain types of behaviour or activity that put a person in situations where they are more likely to catch the virus. These activities are called "high risk activities". For example people who have sex with many different partners are more likely to have sex with an infected person
PROMISCUOUS	this word is not easy to define. It is used when referring to people who have sex with a lot of different people. It is difficult to say how many partners or over what period of time is "a lot"
SCREENING	this is when a group of people are tested to see if they have a disease. For example, the Chamber of Mines screened mineworkers to see how many workers were infected with HIV virus