Superinfection of HIV

Superinfection with HIV happens when a person already infected with one strain of HIV becomes infected with another strain of HIV.

How does Superinfection Occur?

Increased risk for Superinfection has been shown to occur within the first year of getting HIV infected.

What occurs with Superinfection?

Superinfection may increase viral load and decrease CD4 counts.

The new second strain (Superinfecting strain) may be stronger than the first or it may be resistant to one or more anti-HIV drugs.

Superinfection may speed the course of HIV disease.

How Common is Superinfection?

It is not known how common Superinfection is. Research suggests it does occur, but not very often. Given how often HIV positive persons have unprotected sex with other HIV positive persons, Superinfection appears to be difficult, but possible.

Unprotected intercourse puts you at risk for not only STDs, but HIV Superinfection as well.

For more STD info:
http://www.noah-health.org/
http://www.sfsi.org/
http://www.ashastd.org/
http://www.cdc.gov/std/

Gay Men’s Health:
http://www.healthypenis2003.org/
http://inspot.org/
http://www.gmhc.org

For a STD check-up or treatment, see your doctor, local clinic, or come to:
City Clinic
356 Seventh Street
(between Folsom and Harrison)
San Francisco, CA 94103
(415)487-5500
http://www.dph.sf.ca.us/sfcityclinic/

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