

# 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/>