

AIDS/HIV



What is HIV?

- Human Immunodeficiency Virus. HIV attacks the immune system - the part of our body that protects us from infections and illnesses. It takes about 3 - 6 months for HIV to appear after infection.

What is AIDS?

- AIDS, the Acquired Immune Deficiency, is a disease caused by HIV. Once infected with HIV, it typically takes 10 years to develop AIDS (although in some, this time may be shorter). People with AIDS cannot fight common diseases, and therefore become very ill and die. A person can be infected with HIV and not have AIDS.

HIV/AIDS Infection:

How do you get it?

- Unprotected sexual intercourse - anal, vaginal, oral
- Sharing drug needles and syringes
- Sharing unsanitary piercing instruments
- From mother to child
- Blood contact

HIV is NOT spread via...

- Kissing
- Biting
- Blood sucking insects

Who can get HIV?

- ANYONE...Man, Woman, Gay, Straight, Christian, Jew, Black, White, Asian, Latino, Canadian, Young, Old ...ANYONE.

»That includes you!

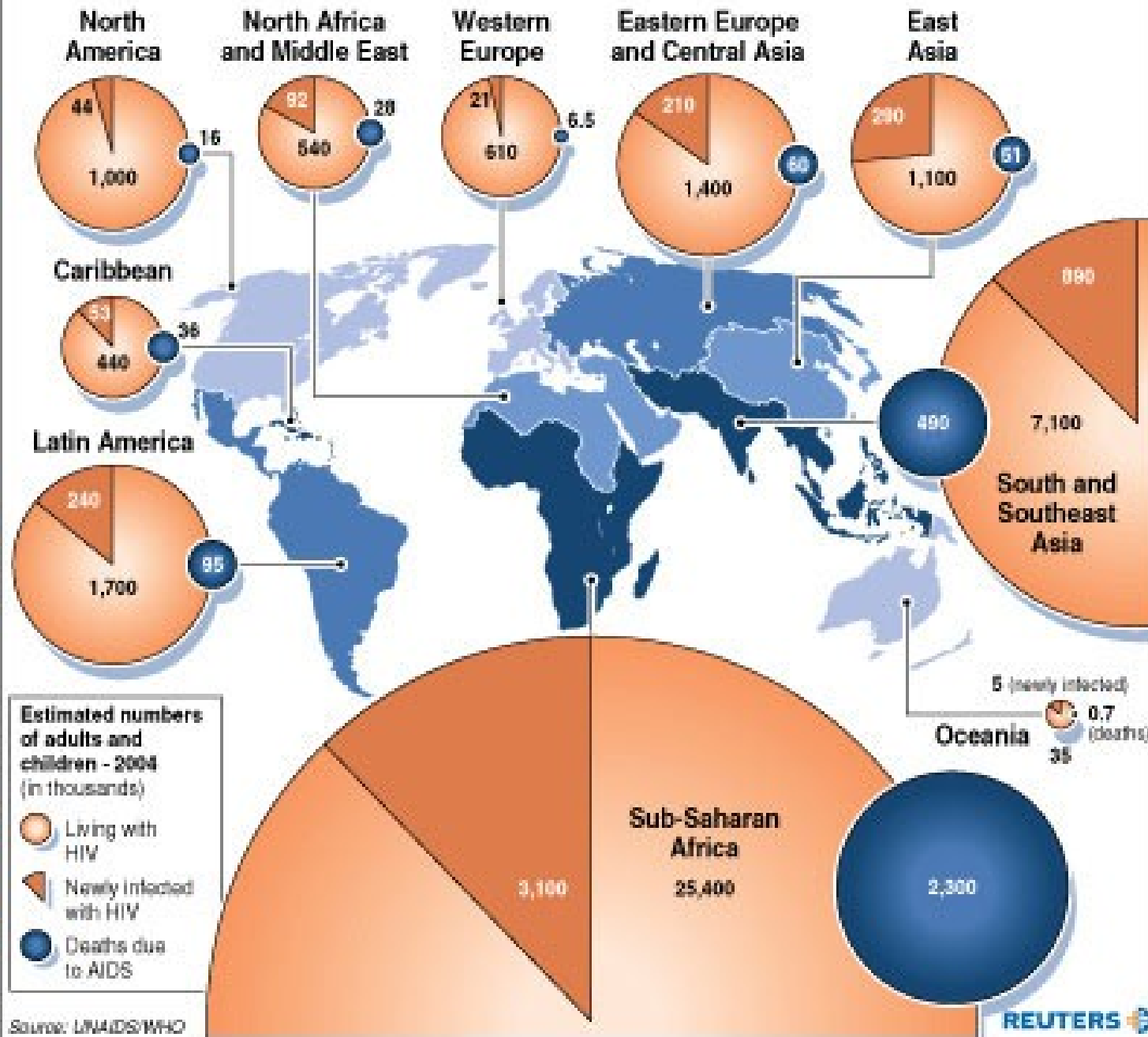
Can I tell if my partner is sick?

- People who are infected can have the virus in their body for years before getting sick. During this time, they look and feel healthy. If they have sex with anyone, there is the chance that they will spread the virus to their sex partner.

The College Facts

- One in every 500 American college students is infected with HIV
- The rate of HIV infection in the general American population is one in 250
- 4 factors that put college students at increasing risk: peer pressure, lack of maturity, increase in alcohol/drug use, and growing incidence of date rape

PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV / AIDS IN 2004



Source: UNAIDS/WHO