

# Skeehchooash

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PEQUOT PHARMACEUTICAL NETWORK • PHARMACY NEWSLETTER

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ENDING THE HIV EPIDEMIC  
Equitable Access, Everyone's Voice



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1-800-779-6329

Website  
www.prxn.com

E-Mail  
pharmacy@mpntn.org

PEQUOT  
HEALTH CARE

Pequot Health Care  
1 Annie George Drive  
Mashantucket,  
CT 06338



Mashantucket Pequot  
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## December 1st is World AIDS Day

World AIDS Day was first observed in 1988. Each year, organizations and individuals across the world bring attention to the HIV epidemic, endeavor to increase HIV awareness and knowledge, speak out against HIV stigma, and call for an increased response to move toward *Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S.*

- More than 700,000 American lives have been lost to HIV since 1981.
- More than 1.1 million Americans are currently living with HIV and many more are at risk of HIV infection.
- While new HIV diagnoses have declined significantly from their peak, progress on further reducing them has stalled with an estimated 38,000 Americans being newly diagnosed each year. Without intervention nearly 400,000 more Americans will be newly diagnosed over 10 years despite the availability of tools to prevent transmissions.
- There is a real risk of an HIV resurgence due to several factors, including trends in injection and other drug use; HIV-related stigma; homophobia and transphobia; lack of access to HIV prevention, testing, and treatment; and a lack of awareness that HIV remains a significant public health threat.

The Ending the HIV Epidemic initiative focuses on four key strategies that, implemented together, can end the HIV epidemic in the U.S.: *Diagnose, Treat, Prevent, and Respond.*



**Diagnose** all people with HIV as early as possible.

**Treat** people with HIV rapidly and effectively to reach sustained viral suppression.



**Prevent** new HIV transmissions by using proven interventions, including pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and syringe services programs (SSPs).

**Respond** quickly to potential HIV outbreaks to get needed prevention and treatment services to people who need them.



Source: <https://www.hiv.gov/federal-response/ending-the-hiv-epidemic/overview>

At Pequot Health Care, we are dedicated to maintaining your good health!