

Q/ How can I get an HIV-free baby? What an a dev

Dr Vincent Karuhanga
answers your questions

ASK THE DOCTOR

Dear doctor: I got married two years ago. Since my wife was in school we kept using withdrawal and condoms. Before trying for a baby, we went for an HIV testing and it was discovered that she is HIV positive while I am not. I have tried impregnating her and failed. We tried using condoms so that she can pour cum manually using a syringe to no avail. We also tried putting holes in the condom still to no avail. I love my wife, so what can I do to get a child?

E. Damba

Dear Damba: When people are usual sexual partners and one has HIV and the other does not, then the couple is called discordant. Discordant couples need to use condoms so that the one who is not sick does not get sick.

However, use of condoms means the lady will not get pregnant. It is likely that using condoms more often than not could have saved you from getting HIV.

Your need to have a baby, requires having repeated unprotected sex, which puts you at risk of HIV infection.

This means that to have a baby you may require assisted fertilisation by either artificial insemination or test-tube baby whereby sperms are mixed with ova outside the body.

The fertilised eggs are then inserted in the womb for pregnancy. However, this may be too expensive for most people.

It is rather innovative for you to think of using a condom but it has to be non-toxic to your sperms and have your spouse pour this deep inside her private parts.

Some people have furthered the innovation by using a syringe to draw the semen and instill it deep into the female



genitals akin to artificial insemination with a few being successful.

Your question shows that you are not consulting your doctor about your spouse's condition and how to get her pregnant and eventually deliver a healthy baby.

Please seek medical attention, and consult an HIV counsellor.

EXPERTS SAY

Possibilities. Many couples where one person is HIV positive and the other is not want to have children and, fortunately, with some careful planning, it usually is possible to have a safe and successful pregnancy while preventing HIV from passing to the HIV-negative partner and the baby.

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