

Rapid Testing in Labor & Delivery Hospital Assessment

This tool was created to help hospitals prepare to offer Rapid HIV testing to Labor and Delivery patients. The Pacific AIDS Education and Training Center (PAETC) is available to offer Technical Assistance to help sites get the below components in place.

1. Staff Readiness and Training

- All Labor and Delivery and Lab staff understand the rationale for and importance of RT in L & D.
- Determine all of the HIV Care team: Social Workers, Peer Advocates, Support services, Crisis Management and what additional training is needed.
- Assess and address obstacles to staff interest and willingness to offer RT
- Lab director and staff develop QA procedures
- Laboratory staff trained in Rapid Test protocols and procedures
- L & D staff (also Head nurse, neonatologist, nurse educators, perinatologist,) are trained on HIV issues, giving results, patient counseling, care for HIV+ women and babies, community referrals for follow up
- Social Work dept: system for notification by nursing staff for crisis counseling/support for women with preliminary positive.
- Develop relationship with an HIV Specialist (physician).
- Confidentiality: Who is in the room with the patient and how confidentiality is maintained during history taking, giving results and giving medication for treatment.
- Resources available (in appropriate languages) to inform patients about Perinatal HIV issues (possibility of false positives, need for treatment of all positives)
- Determine Pharmacy role and make contact
- Resources and referrals to local, regional and national AIDS organizations.
- Other: _____

2. Protocols and Guidelines

- Perinatal HIV guidelines: accessible
- Protocol for Rapid Testing in Labor and Delivery
- Background materials to determine best treatment practice (Perinatal guidelines)
- Access to National Perinatal Hotline service
- Other: _____

3. Lab Procedures

- Identify a Quality Assurance manager or Lab Director to oversee this RTLD effort:
- Identify rapid test to be used (OraQuick, Unigold,etc)
- Determine whether test requires validation within internal lab

- CLIA waiver certificate current
- Determine who will conduct test and where (Point of care versus lab)
- Determine the timeframe for RT and confirmatory results (turnaround time)
- Determine ability of lab to give STAT results in less than 60 minutes 24/7
- Method for reporting test results to nursing staff
- Determine the procedure for conducting a confirmatory test
- Preparing for Rapid Testing implementation
- Personnel requirements and training for staff who conduct test
- Process control: monitoring storage temperature, inventory, external controls, etc.
- Documentation and records: staff training, external QC for test kits, kit and control storage, external QC log, etc.
- Methodology for reporting + results to the Health Dept.
- Audit process for numbers, timing, and results of rapid HIV tests.
- Trouble shooting and problem-solving: log for problems/unusual occurrences and actions taken.
- Other: _____

4. Medications

- Pharmacy contacted to ensure a variety of medications are available
- Readily available intravenous AZT on L & D units/pharmacy
- Standing orders for antiretroviral use in labor and for newborn
- Determine what treatment is given to woman and when
- Determine what treatment is given to infant and when/how long
- Readily available oral AZT drops for newborns after delivery
- Accessibility of other antiretroviral drugs such as nevirapine and lamivudine which may be recommended by HIV consultant for both mother and infant
- Other: _____

5. Post-delivery

- Standard precautions for mother and baby
- Resume/continue antiretroviral treatment
- Staff and written information to explain why patient should avoid breastfeeding
- Discharge plans for mother
- Follow up of confirmatory testing of preliminary positive results
- Referrals for future HIV testing for high risk negative patients or those in window period
- Set up follow up appointment with pediatrician and HIV primary care doctor
- Resources to assist with partner notification and disclosure assistance for patient.
- Set up a system to notify a community pharmacy at least 48 hours before discharge so that AZT is available for families.
- Community resources for HIV+ women and children
- Other: _____