

Step-by-Step: Rapid HIV Testing on Labor and Delivery San Francisco General Hospital (SFGH)

Please see Rapid HIV Testing on Labor and Delivery Protocol for full details.

1. Determine eligibility

- Women without an HIV test during current pregnancy or with continuing risk behavior after negative prenatal HIV test should be approached for rapid testing.
 - Document the HIV test result and date of testing on the L&D admission note.
 - Check LCR computer for prenatal HIV test results
 - Type “HIV” in the “Specific Lab Test” field of the lab results screen.
- OR
- Check “HIV antibody” in “Serology” section of lab results

2. Pre-test counseling and consent

- Obtain an HIV Rapid Diagnostic Test Information Sheet. Forms are in the medical forms file cabinet behind the nurses’ station.
- Ensure **confidentiality** before discussing the HIV test. (e.g. ask family and friends to leave the room, make sure there aren’t other patients in triage, etc...)
- Explain to the woman that you would like to do a rapid HIV test.
- Give patient the **information sheet** regarding the rapid HIV test consent.
- Review the following:
 - Reason for encouraging this test, routine nature of test
 - Timing of test results (<1 hour for rapid test, \cong 1 week for confirmatory testing)
 - Preliminary nature of positive rapid test results (confirmatory test needed)
 - Management of positives (anti-retroviral medication and possible recommendation for cesarean delivery if no labor or ruptured membrane, deferring breastfeeding)
 - Option of deferring or declining results disclosure until after delivery (but will give antiretrovirals regardless)
 - Confidentiality of results
 - Possible risks of false positive (unnecessary medication or cesarean delivery).
- Document discussion with patient and consent refusal of test in progress notes. Patient does not need to sign for consent or for refusal.

3. Sending specimen to lab

- Obtain **at least 1 ml of blood (5ml preferred)** in a green or red-topped tube.
 - **Mottled green preferred** (results will be available sooner).
- Call the **lab 206-8576** to inform them that a Rapid HIV test is arriving shortly from labor and delivery.
- Call **stat transport 206 8010** or **deliver** the specimen to the 2nd floor lab
- **Hours test is available:** 24 hours/day, 7days/week.

4. Getting results from the lab

- Results will be in the LCR computer **30-60 minutes** after the specimen reaches the lab.
- **Positive results** will be reported by lab to a physician.
 - If no results are available after 60 minutes, call 206-8590.

5. Results disclosure

- Ensure **privacy** before giving a result unless the woman has specifically requested someone present during the results disclosure session.
- Negatives: Inform the woman of her negative status and document in the chart.
Explain that unless she became infected recently, she does not have HIV. Review the need to protect herself from HIV infection while she is pregnant or breastfeeding in order to avoid transmission of HIV to her fetus or newborn.

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6. Managing positives

For patients who will deliver during current hospital stay:

- Get a **POSITIVE RAPID HIV TESTING** folder out of the **BAPAC* bin** in the **dirty utility room**. Follow instructions on the Positive Rapid HIV Test sheet.
- **Call the RID pager** 443-8726 immediately.**
- Results Disclosure: **Inform the woman that her rapid HIV test result is a “preliminary” positive. Explain that it may take up to a week to know the final result** but that we can reduce the risk of perinatal HIV transmission by giving medication as soon as possible (i.e. before the final result is available). Explain that these medications are considered safe in pregnancy and that the faster they are given the more likely they are to work to reduce the transmission risk. Discuss route of delivery as per recommendation of RID fellow.
- **To order antiretroviral medications, use the “Physician Order-BAPAC/HIV+ Ante/Intra/Post Partum Orders”**, enclosed in the Positive Rapid HIV Testing folder. If unable to locate a POSITIVES folder or an order sheet, download an order sheet from CHN Intranet:
 - Click on “SFGHMC Forms” scroll down to “Physician Order-BAPAC/HIV+ Ante/Intra/Post Partum Orders”, click to print OR
 - access the orders via the “Perinatal Site”, under “Perinatal HIV related forms.”
- **Inform the on-call Pediatrics resident** that they will be caring for an infant potentially exposed to HIV. **The nursery team should call the RID pager** 443-8726** for specific recommendations.
- **To order antiretroviral medications, the Pediatrics team should use the “Physician Order- HIV-exposed/BAPAC Nursery Newborn orders”** enclosed in the Positive Rapid HIV Testing folder. If unable to find a POSITIVES folder or an order sheet, download an order sheet via the CHN Intranet:
 - Click on “SFGHMC Forms” scroll down to “Physician Order- HIV-exposed/BAPAC Nursery Newborn orders” click to print OR
 - access the orders via the “Perinatal Site”, under “Perinatal HIV related forms.”
- After delivery, **baby will need to be formula fed** until confirmatory HIV test results are available. **Assist the woman with pumping her breasts** (and saving or dumping the milk) if she would like to maintain milk supply. Let her know that lactation assistance is available if the confirmatory test is negative and she is advised that she can initiate breastfeeding.
- **Schedule an appointment** for disclosure of confirmatory results in 1 week with BAPAC (206-8919) or SFGH Family HIV Clinic (Family Health Center Blue Team Friday afternoon, appts: 206-6554). Ensure that contact information in the LCR computer system under “demographics” is up to date. Leave message on **BAPAC voicemail 206-8919** with **patient’s phone** number.

For patients who will be discharged undelivered:

- Call **RID pager 443-8726** for discharge medications and follow up plan.
- Make a follow up appointment the following Monday am with BAPAC 5M Clinic (Feakins template). Leave message on BAPAC voicemail 206-8919 with patient’s phone number.

7. Documentation

- Document prenatal HIV test result and date in the L&D admission note (or in triage note and prenatal chart if patient not in labor)
- Document offering rapid HIV test, acceptance/declining, results, and disclosure:
 - 1) In L&D progress notes, and
 - 2) In the LCR, “Lab”, subsection “HIV disclosure” by filling in appropriate fields to document disclosure to patient.
- Put sticker with patient’s name and MR# (addressograph) in **RAPID HIV TEST LOG** for ALL women undergoing rapid HIV testing on L&D
- Document follow up plan and HIV-related discharge medications.

*BAPAC = Bay Area Perinatal AIDS Center, SFGH perinatal HIV service.

**RID pager 443-8726 will access the Reproductive ID Fellow, one of the members of the BAPAC team.