



HIV Testing Information and Resources for California Clinicians

Find an HIV Test Site

Both ANONYMOUS and CONFIDENTIAL HIV testing are available in California.

CDC National HIV and STD Testing Resources

<http://www.hivtest.org>

National HIV testing site locator

California AIDS Clearinghouse

<http://www.hivinfo.org/>

California county information and links to local health partners

AIDS Hotline of California

<http://www.aidshotline.org/>

Extensive searchable database of organizations providing HIV/AIDS services in California

Consultation Services

 **National HIV/AIDS Clinicians' Consultation Center**

- Advice on rapid and standard HIV testing
- Help with interpreting or disclosing HIV test results
- Assistance with HIV testing protocols
- State HIV Testing Laws Compendium at: <http://www.nccc.ucsf.edu>

HIV Warmline

(800) 933-3413

Expert clinical consultation on HIV testing and treatment

Perinatal HIV Hotline

(888) 448-8765

Advice on interpreting HIV test results and treating HIV-infected pregnant women and their infants

PEPIline

(888) 448-8765

Around-the-clock advice on managing occupational exposures

Recommendations for HIV Testing in Health Care Settings

Summary of Revised Recommendations for HIV Testing:

- All patients ages 13–64 should be routinely screened for HIV infection, after being notified the test will be performed, unless the patient declines.
- Patients likely to be at high risk for HIV infection should be screened at least annually.
- Patients initiating treatment for TB or STDs should be routinely screened for HIV.
- HIV screening should be included as part of routine prenatal care for all pregnant women.
- Separate written consent for HIV testing should not be required.
- Prevention counseling should not be required with HIV diagnostic testing.



Revised Recommendations for HIV Testing of Adults, Adolescents, and Pregnant Women in Health-Care Settings - CDC *MMWR*, September 22, 2006

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5514a1.htm>

California HIV/AIDS Testing and Reporting Requirements

Consent for HIV Testing

California law on HIV testing in medical settings is now consistent with CDC recommendations.

- Written consent for HIV testing by medical providers is no longer required in California.
- Medical care providers, prior to ordering an HIV test for all patients, are required to:
 - inform patients that an HIV test will be performed
 - provide information about the test and HIV treatment options
 - advise the patient of their right to decline the HIV test.
- Pregnant women are no longer required to provide written consent or refusal of HIV testing.
- Medical care providers must document in the patient's medical file if an HIV test is declined (*"Patient declines HIV test"* is sufficient notation.)

Reporting Requirements

California law now requires health care providers to report cases of HIV infection and AIDS by name.

- To report a case of HIV infection or AIDS: Complete CDPH Form 8641-A, *Adult HIV/AIDS Confidential Case Report*, and submit it within 7 calendar days to your local health department HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program.
- HIV reporting information and the CDPH Form 8641-A are available on the State Office of AIDS web site at: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Pages/Default.aspx>

Write your local HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program staff contact name and phone number here:

Emerging Best Practices for Routine HIV Testing in Health Care Settings

Offering Routine HIV Tests Offer HIV testing as a part of routine medical care.

- ☑ Provide patients with information on the importance of knowing HIV status.
- ☑ Adopt policy of offering HIV testing routinely to all patients with undocumented HIV status.
- ☑ Develop written HIV testing and referral policies, procedures and protocols.
- ☑ Ensure newly HIV-diagnosed patients are linked to clinical care, counseling, support, and prevention services.
- ☑ Persons at high risk for HIV infection should be advised to be retested periodically and should be offered prevention counseling.

Offering Routine HIV Testing:

Script Requirements/Recommendations:

1. Inform patient that test is planned.
2. Provide information about test.
3. Inform patient about treatment options and need for more testing.
4. Advise patient of right to decline test.

SAMPLE SCRIPT LANGUAGE SUGGESTIONS:

- a. *"We perform routine screening for HIV on all patients and we'll be doing that as part of your visit today."*
- b. *"We do this because of our desire to help keep our patients healthy and because there are excellent treatment options available for HIV."*
- c. *"If your test is positive we will need to do more testing but you should know there are many effective treatments for HIV."*
- d. *"You can decline the test and it will not affect the care you receive today."*
- e. *If using rapid test: "It's a quick test and you will know the results before you leave today."*

Delivering HIV Test Results MESSAGES FOR PATIENTS

With NEGATIVE RAPID OR CONVENTIONAL TEST results:

- No further testing is necessary unless patient may have been exposed during the last 3 months ("window period.")
- If possible exposure during window period, patient should be re-tested in 3 months.
- Provide counseling on risk reduction and resources for patients concerned about risk.

With PRELIMINARY POSITIVE RAPID TEST results:

- The patient most likely has HIV, but the test needs to be confirmed with a Western Blot or IFA.
- Provide counseling, with focus on HIV as a manageable disease, risk reduction, psychosocial issues, and partner notification/disclosure.

With POSITIVE CONVENTIONAL TEST results:

- Clinician should provide positive HIV test results in person.
- Provide counseling, with focus on HIV as a manageable disease, risk reduction, psychosocial issues, and partner notification/disclosure.
- Initiate appropriate screening and treatment and/or referrals for care and other services.
- Report test result to local health department.

With INDETERMINATE TEST result:

- Explain that results are unclear and the test needs to be repeated in a few weeks.
- Explore possibilities of exposure during window period.

HIV testing information sheets and additional resources for health care providers are available online from the State Office of AIDS web site at <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Pages/OAHIVTestHCS.aspx>

HIV/AIDS Information Resources for Patients

California HIV/AIDS Hotline:
1-800-367-2437

CDC National HIV & AIDS Hotline:
English: 1-800-342-2437
Spanish: 1-800-344-7432

AIDS InfoNet
<http://www.aidsinfonet.org/>

AIDSinfo Treatment Information
<http://aidsinfo.nih.gov/>

AIDS Education Global Information System
<http://www.aegis.com/>

The Body
<http://www.thebody.com/index.html>

CDC HIV/AIDS Prevention Program
<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/default.htm>

Project Inform
<http://www.projectinform.org/>



Contact your local PAETC for HIV/AIDS training, education and information services for health care providers!

Northern California:

UC Davis - Sacramento AETC (916) 734-3365
UCSF - San Francisco AETC (415) 206-8730
East Bay AETC (510) 835-3700
North Coast Area AETC (707) 527-6223
San Joaquin Valley AETC (559) 446-2323
San Jose AETC (408) 556-6605

Southern California:

Drew University AETC (323) 563-4972
UCLA AETC (310) 794-8276
USC AETC (626) 457-4227
UC Irvine AETC (714) 456-5134
UC San Diego AETC (619) 543-2415