

TODAY'S DATE _____

My check mark and signature below indicate my testing decision.

YES, TEST ME.

I would like to be tested for HIV today and I am signing here to let you know that.

X _____

NO, THANK YOU.

I do not want to be tested for HIV today and I am signing here to let you know that.

X _____

I NEED MORE INFORMATION.

I would still like more information and the opportunity to have my questions answered, and I am signing here to let you know that.

X _____

**BE SAFE.
LIVE LONG.
GET TESTED.**

Detach along perforation

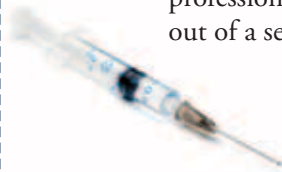
How can I protect myself against HIV?

If you are sexually active:

- Use a latex or polyurethane condom when having vaginal or anal sex
- Use flavored condoms for oral sex (on a male)
- Use saran wrap or dental dams for oral-vaginal or oral-anal sex
- Avoid ejaculating inside your partner or having your partner ejaculate inside you
- Reduce the number of partners you currently have
- Know the HIV status of your partners

If you use needles for injection, piercing or tattooing:

- Avoid sharing any needles or syringes—purchase new syringes from a pharmacy or visit your local syringe exchange
- Avoid sharing works (such as cookers, cotton filters or water)
- If you cannot obtain clean needles or syringes, limit the number of people with whom you share equipment, and know their HIV and Hepatitis status
- Make sure your tattoo artist or piercing professional takes new, unused needles out of a sealed package in front of you



TODAY we are going to test you
FOR HIV



Why?

The Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention

recommend that

everyone between

the ages of 13 and 64

be tested for HIV,

regardless of risk.

EVERYONE should know their HIV status

Why?

Approximately 250,000 people in the U.S. have HIV and do not know it. Many people do not get tested because they don't think it can happen to them. Anyone can get HIV if they have been exposed to infected blood, semen, vaginal fluids or breast milk.

How will knowing my status benefit me?

If you have HIV, knowing your status can help you take steps to improve your health, prevent illnesses and live a long life.

Who will know I am being tested?

You and your health care provider are the only ones who will know you are being tested. If your test comes back positive, it will become part of your confidential medical record, and your state or local health department will also be notified. If you are interested in anonymous testing (meaning, no names are used), let us know and we will give you information about places where you can get an anonymous test in your area.

How will the test be done?

A *rapid HIV* test will be done with either blood or oral fluid and the test results are generally available within 10-40 minutes.

How do the tests work?

Once HIV enters the body, the immune system begins to make antibodies to fight the virus. The tests check for the antibodies. The tests used for HIV are very accurate, and incorrect results are very rare.

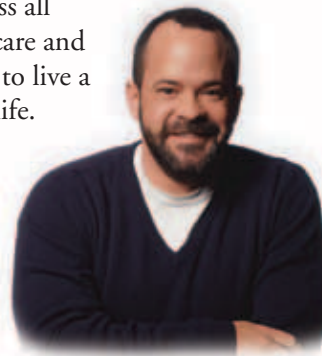
What if the results come back negative?

This means that no antibodies to HIV were detected at this time. This is not necessarily a final result, as sometimes it takes up to twelve weeks to develop enough antibodies to test positive. Therefore, you may need another test to detect any exposures which have occurred in the past three months.

What if the results come back positive?

If your *rapid test* comes back positive, another test will be performed just to be completely sure of the positive result. The confirmed results will be available in one to two weeks.

If the positive test result is confirmed, take a deep breath...receiving this news is no longer a death sentence. There are over 30 drugs currently used to treat HIV, and more are being developed every year. With these new medications, people with HIV are living longer and HIV is now a long-term manageable illness. If your result comes back positive we will help you access all the information, care and support you need to live a long and healthy life.



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For more information:

The State of Illinois AIDS/HIV and STD Hotline
(800) 243-2437

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
(800) 448-0440

Illinois HIV Service Directory
www.tpan.com/online_directory

National HIV and STD Testing Resources
www.hivtest.org

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MIDWEST AIDS TRAINING + EDUCATION CENTER

Partnering for Excellence in HIV Care