

## CONSENT FOR HIV TESTING

I want to be tested for HIV (human immunodeficiency virus).

### I understand:

- The benefit and possible risk of testing, including the benefits of confidential (name-associated) testing.
- My HIV test results will be kept confidential. Wisconsin statutes allow my test results to be released to specific persons under limited circumstances, and allow for reporting positive test results to the State for the purposes of disease monitoring and intervention. A listing of the circumstances under which my HIV test result can be disclosed is available for review, if I request it.
- The option of an anonymous test is available for persons with concerns about having their name associated with a test.
- Additional counseling and assistance with health care and other services are available if I need them.

### In addition, I understand that if I choose a rapid HIV test:

- If the test result is non-reactive, the result is interpreted as negative and is available today.
- **If the test result is reactive, I am agreeing to a second (confirmatory) test that will be performed to determine whether I have HIV. This second test requires that a blood sample be collected today and be sent to an off-site laboratory. Results will be available 3-7 days after the confirmatory test.**
- Only a positive result from the confirmatory test would indicate that I have HIV.

I have read the above information. It has been explained to me. My questions have been answered. I agree to be tested for HIV. I have indicated below the type of test to which I am agreeing.

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I want my test to be confidential (with my name listed on the test result).

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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**SIGNATURE** – Person Receiving Test

Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

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**SIGNATURE** – Person Legally Authorized to Consent on Behalf of Person Receiving Test

Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

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Telephone Number of Signee \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Person Receiving Test \_\_\_\_\_

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I want my test to be anonymous (without my name being listed on the test result).

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**CODE** – Person Receiving Test

Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

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# HIV Testing: What You Need to Know

## What is HIV?

HIV is the human immunodeficiency virus that can sometimes lead to AIDS.

## How is HIV passed from person to person?

A person living with HIV can pass the virus to others if they are not receiving the right treatment. HIV is most commonly passed through:

- Sex
- Sharing needles for injection drug use

People who are pregnant or breastfeeding should know:

- HIV treatment can prevent a person giving birth and living with HIV from passing HIV on to their baby before or during birth.
- HIV can also be passed from a person breastfeeding to child through breast milk.

## Why is HIV testing important?

About one out of five persons living with HIV do not know they have HIV. This means they are missing out on drug treatment that could help them live a long, healthy life. The right treatment plan can also mean never passing HIV on to a partner.

An HIV test is the only way to know whether you have HIV. It's important to get tested regularly if you are at risk for HIV.

## How can I prevent HIV?

Today, there are more ways to prevent HIV than ever before. If someone living with HIV is on the right treatment plan, it can mean never passing HIV on to partners sexually. Here are a few other ways to prevent HIV:

- Wear condoms
- Use PrEP (one pill, once a day that prevents HIV)
- Avoid sharing needles when injecting drugs

## Do I have a choice?

Yes, it's your choice -- you can decide if you want an HIV test. Other health care services and treatment cannot be denied if you decide not to be tested.

## Who will be told if I have HIV?

State law permits only a very limited number of people to know if someone is living with HIV. Positive HIV test results are reported to public health officials. Strict state laws safeguard confidential information on HIV.

## Who can assist people if they test positive?

There are many medical and social services available for people living with HIV at no or low cost to the person. Your health care provider is one person who can help connect you to these services, or you can get assistance from the local health department.

There are community-based organizations that can help people living with HIV find services that include:

- Specialized HIV medical care
- Drug payment assistance for HIV medication
- HIV case management
- Mental health services
- Housing assistance
- Food pantry
- Legal assistance

For more information on resources in Wisconsin, visit the Wisconsin HIV Program website at [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/aids-hiv](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/aids-hiv).

### There are three possible HIV test results:

- A **negative screening test result** means that a person probably doesn't have HIV. However, if a person has been recently exposed to HIV, it may be too soon to find out if the person has HIV. Re-testing may be necessary.
- A **positive screening test result** means that the test detected HIV in a person's blood. If this is the first time someone tested positive for HIV, it is highly recommended that another test be done to confirm the result.
- An **invalid screening test result** is neither negative nor positive. The person should be tested again as soon as possible.

No test is 100% accurate. Additional testing may be needed or recommended.