GET THE FACTS ABOUT

HIV TESTING

IN THIS ISSUE:

The Facts
Did You Know?
Testing Information
There Are More Than One...
Resources
The Facts

You are at risk for HIV & other STIs if you:

- Had vaginal, anal, or oral sex (risk is higher if no condom was used)
- Shared needles or syringes when injecting drugs, medications or vitamins
- Shared needles for tattoos or body piercing

Many STDs, including HIV, have no symptoms. The only way to know for sure is to get tested.

A person should get tested every 6 months or before starting a new sexual relationship.
In most states, a person under the age of 18 can get tested for HIV and most other STIs without permission from a parent. However, check with the doctor's office or clinic before going to find out if you need your guardian's permission. Even if you don't need your parent/guardian's permission, talking about getting tested for STIs with your guardian or a trusted adult is a good idea.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

If you are under 18 you do not need parent/guardian's permission for HIV & most STI testing

HIV tests can be confidential or anonymous.

**CONFIDENTIAL TESTING:**
You give your name. The results go in your medical record and can only be shared with people authorized to see your medical records.

**ANONYMOUS TESTING:**
You don’t have to give your name and you’re assigned a number to get your results. Anonymous testing is not available in every state.
The cost of testing varies at each location.

At family planning and public health clinics, the cost of testing is usually free or very low cost.

The cost of treatment varies at each location.

At-home test are between $35-80 depending on the type of STI test.

At tribal clinics testing is free.
**Types of HIV Tests**

There are several different ways to get tested for HIV, including:

- **HIV Blood Test**: Blood is drawn. Results are usually ready within a few days to 2 weeks.
- **Rapid HIV Test**: A blood sample is drawn or a fingerprick is done and then tested immediately.
- **Oral Test**: The inside of the mouth is rubbed with a cotton swab. Results are usually ready within a few days to 2 weeks.
- **Rapid Oral Test**: The inside of the mouth is rubbed with a small plastic comb. Results are available within 20 minutes. Must be reconfirmed with another test if positive.
- **Home Test**: A blood sample is taken at home and sent to a lab by mail. Results are usually ready by phone within a few days.
- **Rapid Home Test**: This is an at-home rapid oral test that will provide results at-home within 30 minutes. Must be reconfirmed with another test if positive.

**Types of STI Tests**

There are several different ways to get tested for STIs, including:

- Blood Tests
- Urine Tests
- Pelvic and physical exams
- Gential (penile/vaginal) and anal swabs
RESOURCES

www.iknowmine.org
www.wernative.org
www.healthynativeyouth.org
www.sexetc.org
www.plannedparenthood.org/learn/STDs-HIV-Safer-Sex
www.sexualhealth.org/STDs_A_to_Z