

The Current and Future State of HIV Testing in the United States

National HIV Testing Day Webinar 2010

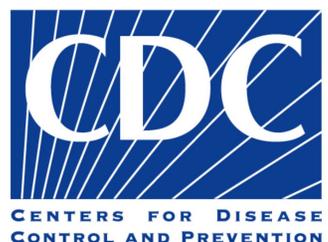
Tuesday June 22, 2010

3:00pm – 4:00pm (Eastern)



Dr. Kevin Fenton

Director, National Center for HIV/AIDS,
Viral Hepatitis, STD and
TB Prevention (NCHHSTP),
Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)



“CDC’s mission is collaborating to create the expertise, information, and tools that people and communities need to protect their health – through health promotion, prevention of disease, injury and disability, and preparedness for new health threats.”

Topic: Testing Practices and CDC Grantees

- One out of five Americans (21%) living with HIV are not aware of their infection.
- In 2006, CDC revised its recommendations for HIV testing of adults, adolescents, and pregnant women in health-care settings recommending **screening of all persons aged 13-64 years** at least once as a routine part of medical care, regardless of risk behavior.
- Since the recommendations were released, data show small **steady increases** for ever-tested and annual testing.
- 43 states and the District of Columbia now have consistent guidelines that have **removed the requirement for a separate signed consent**; up from 30 states in 2006.



Topic: Testing Practices and CDC Grantees (Cont.)

- Some professional organizations support reimbursement for testing and reimbursement legislation was passed in California and Washington, D.C.; introduced in Texas and in the U.S. Legislature.
- In 2007, CDC launched the **Expanded HIV Testing Initiative** which aims to test more than 1 million persons for HIV and identify 20,000 undiagnosed HIV infections annually.
- **Testing venues** include emergency departments, inpatient and urgent care settings, STD clinics, corrections facilities, substance abuse programs, TB clinics, community health centers, and other venues.



Topic: Testing Practices and CDC Grantees (Cont.)

- In the first two years, the Testing Initiative in 25 jurisdictions facilitated more than 1.4 million tests and identified more than 17,000 positives, 10,500 of which represented new diagnoses (Oct 2007 through Sept 2009).
- Continued progress requires addressing logistics as well as culture; ensuring staff “buy-in”; asking for flexibility and creativity; offering consistency, clarity, and persistence in objectives and goals; and building collaboration, networking, and linkages.
- These elements will help to change the context, change the outcome, increase testing, and reduce HIV infection.



Keynote Speaker: Dr. Bernard Branson

Associate Director for Laboratory Diagnostics,
Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention, CDC



Topic: Update on HIV Testing Efforts

- More people are being tested for HIV than ever before. Last year, **82.6 million adults age 18-64 reported they had been tested for HIV**. This is an increase of more than 11 million since 2006, when CDC issued its recommendations for expanded testing in health care settings.
- **Testing is only the entry point.** CDC's expanded testing initiative also emphasizes linkage to care. To date, more than **75% of persons who tested positive for the first time were linked to medical care**, and nearly **80% received partner services** to help notify and ensure that their partners get tested.
- Several cities – such as the Bronx, New York; Washington D.C.; Miami, Florida; Oakland and Los Angeles, California, and Houston, Texas, have undertaken **ambitious municipal scale-up strategies for HIV testing**, and several others are about to be launched. Their goal: **to ensure that every resident gets tested for HIV.**



Topic: Update on HIV Testing Efforts (Cont.)

- HIV tests are better than ever. Since 2002, six rapid tests have been approved by the FDA, and several more are in the pipeline. Two new conventional tests that can be used by hospitals and clinical laboratories take less than an hour to provide a “rapid result” conventional HIV test.
- HIV testing is widely available and easy to obtain. People can ask their health care provider for an HIV test. It’s also easy to find a place to get a free HIV test, conventional or rapid, blood or oral:
 - Go to www.HIVtest.org
 - Call 1-800 CDC-INFO
 - Text your ZIP code to “KNOWIT” (566948)
- Another new resource: HIV Prevention and Services Locator
 - Links people to HIV testing prevention, housing, mental health, substance abuse, and treatment services using their ZIP code.
 - Uses data from CDC, HUD, SAMHSA, HRSA and other agencies
 - Available at <http://aids.gov/locator>
 - Has a widget so you can share it on your site or blog.



Topic: Future Goals and Objectives for HIV Testing

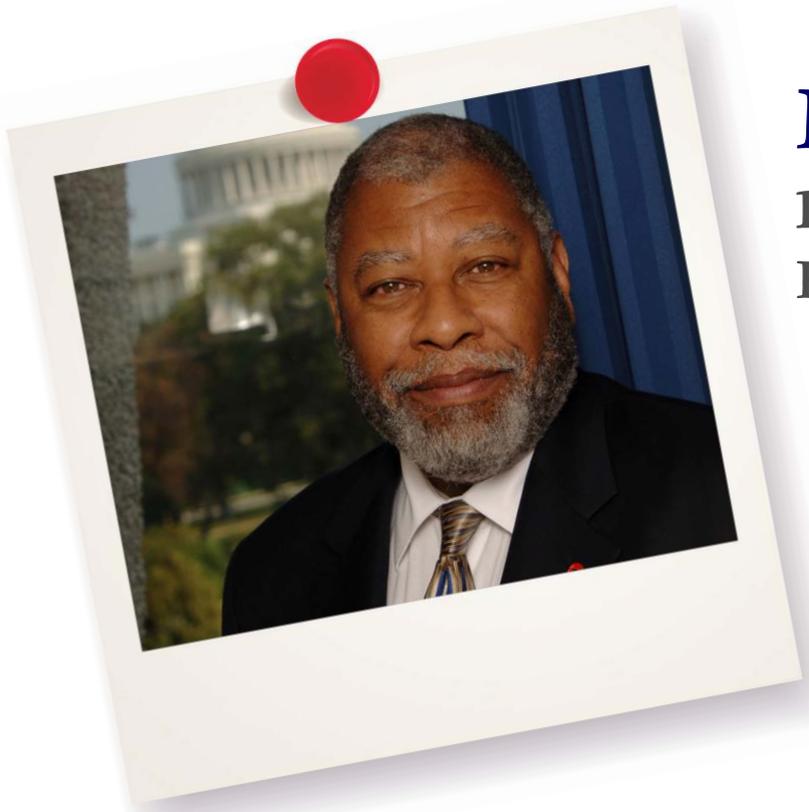
- Diagnose HIV infection earlier. Many people who are infected with HIV don't know it, and don't find out until their disease has advanced. They need to be tested earlier. **HIV testing needs to become as commonplace as cholesterol testing.**
- Better HIV tests will detect infection earlier in the phase shortly after becoming infected, when people are most infectious. Tests for components of the virus itself (either RNA or p24 antigen) are now approved by the FDA, and more are on the way. These are especially important when the rates of new infection are high. In several clinics, especially for men who have sex with men, nearly **10% of all HIV infections might have been missed by antibody tests.**
- No test detects HIV “the morning after.” It is **important to get retested if you or your sex partner has had more than one sex partner since your last HIV test.**



Topic: Future Goals and Objectives for HIV Testing (Cont.)

- More tests will be used to differentiate HIV-1 from HIV-2 infections. Almost all screening tests detect both HIV-1 and HIV-2, but they don't tell them apart. Although relatively few cases of HIV-2 have been identified in the United States, monitoring and treatment are different for HIV-2 than for HIV-1. CDC and the Association of Public Health Laboratories has **developed a new proposal for HIV testing** that will ensure cases of HIV-2 are promptly identified.
- **Testing is an integral part of HIV prevention** and it will become even more important. As evidence accumulates that effective, early antiviral treatment is not only good for patients but also makes their infection less contagious, finding persons with HIV infection as soon as possible is good both for people living with HIV infection and for public health.





Mr. Christopher Bates

Director, Presidential Advisory Council on
HIV/AIDS (PACHA)



“PACHA’s mission is to provide advice, information, and recommendations to the Secretary regarding programs and policies intended to promote effective prevention of HIV disease, and to advance research on HIV disease and AIDS.”



Dr. Deborah Parham Hopson

Associate Administrator for HIV/AIDS,
Health Resources and Services
Administration (HRSA)



“HRSA’s mission is to improve health and achieve health equity through access to quality services, a skilled health workforce and innovative programs.”

Topic: Why HIV Testing is Important

1. Ryan White Programs serve over 530,000 uninsured and underinsured persons affected by HIV/AIDS annually.
 - Individuals undiagnosed and unaware of HIV infection
 - This population contributes to majority of new infections
2. Identify HIV infection early to:
 - Improve health status of the individual
 - Increase life expectancy
 - Offer access to needed health services and life saving medications
3. HIV testing can provide a mechanism to engage high risk populations into the health care delivery system
4. HIV screening and testing should be incorporated into all primary care settings.



Topic: Why HIV Testing is Important (Cont.)

5. It is critical to link HIV testing to comprehensive HIV care and treatment
 - Helps decrease high risk behavior
 - Can reduce likelihood of HIV transmission
6. Factors significantly associated with improved engagement and retention in HIV care:
 - Reduction in barriers and unmet needs
 - Effective provider-patient relationships
7. Persistent challenges to entry and retention in care include:
 - Unstable housing
 - Mental health issues
 - Illicit drug use
 - Lack of health insurance
8. HIV testing is important to stem the spread of disease and to engage those infected into care.



Ms. Beverly Watts Davis

Senior Advisor on Substance Abuse,
Office of the Administrator, SAMHSA



“SAMHSA’s mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America’s communities. The Agency was established in 1992 and directed by Congress to target effectively substance abuse and mental health services to the people most in need and to translate research in these areas more effectively and more rapidly into the general health care system. Over the years SAMHSA has demonstrated that - prevention works, treatment is effective, and people recover from mental and substance use disorders.”



Ms. Barbara Edwards

Director, Elderly and Disabled
Health Programs Group,
Center for Medicaid & State Operations,
Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)



“CMS’ mission is to ensure effective, up-to-date health care coverage and to promote quality care for beneficiaries.”



Dr. Carl Dieffenbach

Director of the Division of AIDS,
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious
Diseases (NIAID)



“NIAID’s mission is to conduct and support basic and applied research to better understand, treat, and ultimately prevent infectious, immunologic, and allergic diseases.”

- HIV continues to spread at a relatively constant rate each year in the United States.
- 21% of the million plus infected Americans are not aware that they are infected.
- New HIV prevention strategies are needed, particularly among the communities most affected by HIV/AIDS.
- NIAID is supporting a study entitled, “TLC-Plus: A Study to Evaluate the Feasibility of an Enhanced Test, Link to Care, Plus Treat Approach for HIV Prevention in the U.S.” through its HIV Prevention Trials Network.



- Expanded voluntary HIV testing will **increase the number of HIV-infected people who know their infection status** thereby empowering them to take control of their health by seeking medical care and adopting behaviors to prevent transmitting the virus to others thereby improving their health and potentially the health of the community at large.
- TLC-Plus was designed in **partnership between the NIH and CDC** as well as departments of health, medical providers and diverse community stakeholders and HIV advocates.



- “TLC-Plus” is a pilot of expanded, **voluntary HIV testing**, along with managed links to medical care and treatment for HIV-infected people. The pilot will determine if this is a feasible and effective approach that could be implemented more broadly in the U.S. to reduce HIV incidence.
- In the “TLC-Plus” study, the **decision whether or not to begin antiretroviral therapy** will be made by the HIV-infected person in consultation with his/her medical provider.





Ms. Lisa C. Neel

Program Analyst, HIV Program,
Office of Clinical and Prevention Services,
Division of Clinical Community Services,
Indian Health Service Headquarters



“IHS’ mission is to raise the physical, mental, social, and spiritual health of American Indians and Alaska Natives to the highest level.”



Dr. Maggie Czarnogorski

Deputy Director, Clinical Public Health Programs,
Department of Veteran Affairs (VA),
Public Health Strategic Health Care Group



“VA’s mission is to fulfill President Lincoln’s promise ‘to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan’ by serving and honoring the men and women who are America’s veterans.”

HIV Prevention and Service Provider Locator Widget



Dear Tseli,

Did you know that you can locate HIV prevention, housing, mental health, substance abuse, testing, and treatment services in your area through one simple tool?

AIDS.gov teamed up with [HUD](#), [SAMHSA](#), [HRSA](#), [CDC](#), and others to develop an [HIV/AIDS Prevention and Service Providers Locator](#).

June 27, 2010 is [National HIV Testing Day](#) (NHTD). We are offering a free [widget](#) to help you share the locator on your own blog or website (check out our [tools](#) page for more information on widgets).

Add the widget to your website or blog in three steps*:

1. Go to www.AIDS.gov/locator
2. Copy the AIDS.gov locator widget code
3. Embed the code in your website or blog

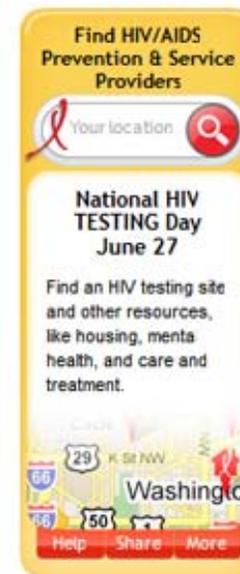
If you already have the widget on your site, thank you! We hope you will ask your colleagues and friends to do the same.

Questions? Please email contact@AIDS.gov.

Best regards,

Miguel Gomez
AIDS.gov Director

**Note: You may need to talk with the person who maintains your website to embed the widget.*



A widget to find local AIDS services, how great is that?
For people with AIDS and people of color, this will be invaluable.*

PAUL KAWATA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NATIONAL MINORITY AIDS COUNCIL



I am still here, alive and well, 22 years after receiving an HIV diagnosis. I attribute this largely to the fact that I took the test. This widget helps people locate testing sites and connects them to important services.*

VANESSA JOHNSON
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
NAPWA



The widget is an important tool which helps our Hispanic/Latino communities in the U.S. access quality health services, in particular HIV testing.*

GUILLERMO CHACÓN
PRESIDENT AND CEO
LATINO COMMISSION ON AIDS

Thanks to our participating agencies:

www.cdc.gov

www.cms.gov

www.hab.hrsa.gov

www.ihs.gov/MedicalPrograms/HIVAIDS

www.niaid.nih.gov

www.pacha.gov

www.samhsa.gov

www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/onap

www.va.gov

For more information visit

www.AIDS.gov