

MacGowan RJ, Eldridge G, Sosman J, Khan R, Flanigan T, Zack B, Margolis A, Askew J, Fitzgerald C, and the Project START Study Group. HIV Counseling and Testing of Young Men in Prison. *J Correctional Health Care* 2006;12(3):203-213.

HIV counseling and testing is the first step to diagnosing and managing HIV infection. This paper describes factors associated with HIV testing and counseling in prisons with different HIV testing (voluntary, during medical evaluation; voluntary, during peer-led class; mandatory) and counseling (all counseled, or pretest not required- posttest for positive only) policies. Testing rates were 46% (voluntary peer-led), 78% (mandatory), and 86% (voluntary-medical), and <50% received any counseling. Results suggest possible coordination of HIV and STD/hepatitis services across all policies. Risk behaviors or demographic factors were only associated with one testing or one counseling policy. Prisons can achieve high rates of HIV testing by routinely offering voluntary HIV testing during the medical intake process, and this may result in increased diagnosis of HIV infection.