



LET'S TALK about

How do you let your partners know they have been exposed to HIV?

LET US HELP YOU.

Partner Services will help you inform your partners about their exposure

What is Partner Services?

Partner Services provides many free services to persons with HIV or other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and their partners. Through Partner Services, health department staff help find sex or drug-injection partners to let them know of their risk of being exposed to HIV or another STD and provide them with testing, counseling, and referrals for other services.

***It is important to know,
exposed partners can be contacted
without using your name.***

How Partner Services helps you

- ▶ Ensures that your sex or drug-injection partners know of their possible exposure to HIV or another STD without using your name.
- ▶ Ensures that trained staff contacts your partners and informs them of their risk of being exposed to HIV or another STD.
- ▶ Coaches you on how to let your sex or drug-injection partners know about their exposure, if you choose to do so yourself.
- ▶ Helps your sex or drug-injection partners get tested quickly and, if they test positive, get into care quickly.
- ▶ Presents another free resource for education and counseling for you to live healthy with HIV.

Importance of Partner Services

- ▶ Ensures that sex or drug-injection partners know of their exposure and helps them gain early access to testing for HIV and other STDs, counseling, medical care, and treatment.
- ▶ Helps provide free services to those who just found out about being HIV positive, links them to medical care and treatment, and offers counseling to avoid infecting others.

Doctors are required by law to report some diseases to their local or state health department.

These usually include HIV, syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia. If you test positive for one of these diseases, you may be contacted by someone from the health department. Sometimes this may happen before you have a chance to talk with your doctor about your test results.

Ways to inform your partners

If you have HIV or another STD (syphilis, gonorrhea, or chlamydia), it is very important to let your sex or drug-injection partners know that they may have been exposed; there are a few ways to do this

1. Health department tells your partners

- You provide your partners' names to the health department.
- Your partners are located and made aware of their exposure by health department staff; health department staff does not use your name.
- Your partners are provided, or referred for, counseling, testing, treatment, and other services by the health department.

2. You tell your partners

- You take on the responsibility of letting your partners know of their exposure.
- You provide them the information on local services, including counseling and testing.

3. Both you and the health department tells your partners

- You let your partners know of their exposure with health department staff.
- Health department staff is there to help you during the process and provide your partners with information, access to counseling, testing, and other resources.

Prevention and you

If you are unsure about how to protect yourself or others from HIV and other STDs, talk with your health care provider. Remember, your choices impact your life, your partners' lives, and the lives of others in your community.

Resources

cdc.gov/nchhstp/partners/FAQ-public.html

has more detailed information about Partner Services.

cdc.gov/hivtreatmentworks

has access to information and resources for people living with HIV, featuring real people from across the United States talking about how sticking with treatment helps them stay healthy; protect others; do what they love; and live a longer, healthier life.

cdc.gov/actagainstaids/campaigns/starttalking

has information geared toward gay men about how to talk to your partner(s) about your serostatus.

[1-800-CDC-INFO \(232-4636\)](tel:1-800-CDC-INFO)

provides general information about HIV and its treatment.

