

National HIV Testing Day — June 27, 2017

National HIV Testing Day, June 27, highlights the importance of testing in detecting, treating, and preventing human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Awareness of HIV infection through HIV testing is the first step to prevention, health care, and social services that improve quality of life and length of survival (1).

CDC's National HIV Behavioral Surveillance (NHBS) monitors behaviors among populations at risk for acquiring or transmitting HIV infection. Recent NHBS data indicate that persons at risk for HIV infection who had ever received testing for HIV are testing at shorter intervals than in the past (2). The average interval in months between two successive HIV tests decreased from 21.1 in 2010 to 19.9 in 2013 among heterosexuals at increased risk for HIV, from 10.5 in 2009 to 7.7 in 2014 among men who have sex with men, and from 14.4 in 2009 to 11.5 in 2015 among persons who inject drugs.

Additional information on National HIV Testing Day is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/features/HIVtesting>. Basic testing information for consumers is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/basics/testing.html>. Additional information on HIV testing for health professionals is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/testing>. CDC's guidelines for HIV testing of serum and plasma specimens is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/guidelines/testing.html>.

References

1. CDC. HIV diagnosis, care, and treatment among persons living with HIV—United States, 2011. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2014;63:1113–7.
2. An Q, Song R, Finlayson TJ, Wejnert C, Paz-Bailey G; NHBS Study Group. Estimated HIV inter-test interval among people at high risk for HIV infection in the US. *Am J Prev Med* 2017. <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0749379717301435>

HIV Testing, Linkage to HIV Medical Care, and Interviews for Partner Services Among Youths — 61 Health Department Jurisdictions, United States, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, 2015

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Identifying persons living with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) who are unaware of their infection, linking them to HIV medical care, and reducing health disparities are important national goals (1). Of the 8,841 teens and young adults aged 13–24 years (collectively referred to as youths in this report) who received a diagnosis of HIV in 2014, 70% were young men who have sex with men (MSM) (2). In the same year, an estimated 52% of young MSM living with HIV were unaware of their infection compared with 15% among all persons living with HIV (3). An average of 22% of high school students who have had sexual intercourse and 33% of young adults (persons aged 18–24 years) reported ever receiving an HIV test (4). CDC recommends screening all persons aged 13–64 years, with annual rescreening for persons at high risk

INSIDE

- 636 Evaluation of Placental and Fetal Tissue Specimens for Zika Virus Infection — 50 States and District of Columbia, January–December, 2016
- 644 Screening for Syphilis and Other Sexually Transmitted Infections in Pregnant Women — Guam, 2014
- 649 Progress Toward Containment of Poliovirus Type 2 — Worldwide, 2017
- 654 QuickStats

Continuing Education examination available at https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/cme/conted_info.html#weekly.

