



Consent Form – Rapid HIV Test

What is HIV? HIV stands for *human immunodeficiency virus*, it attacks your body's immune system, which makes it harder to fight infections. Without treatment, it can lead to *acquired immunodeficiency syndrome* (AIDS). There is no cure for HIV; once you get it, you have it for life.

How Do People Get HIV? In the United States, HIV is spread mainly by:

1. Having anal or vaginal sex with someone who has HIV without using a condom or taking medicines to prevent or treat HIV.
 - For the HIV-negative partner, receptive anal sex (bottoming) is the highest-risk sexual behavior, but you can also get HIV from insertive anal sex (topping).
 - Either partner can get HIV through vaginal sex, though it is less risky for getting HIV.
2. Sharing needles or syringes, rinse water, or other equipment (works) used to prepare drugs for injection with someone who has HIV. HIV can live in a used needle up to 42 days depending on temperature and other factors.

How is an HIV Test Done? A sample of your blood is tested for antibodies. If the test is positive, more tests are done on the same sample to make sure the first test was right. If the other tests come back positive, you are considered to be infected.

What Does a Positive Test Mean? A positive test does NOT mean you have AIDS. It is important to start medical care and HIV treatment as soon as possible. Antiretroviral therapy (ART), medicines to treat HIV, is recommended for all people with HIV, no matter how long they've had it or how healthy they are. ART slows down HIV and helps protect you. When taken the right way, ART can keep you healthy and lowers your chance of passing HIV to your sex or drug partner(s).

- If you test positive, tell health department staff about anyone you've had sex or shared needles with so they can also get an HIV test. Your name will NOT be used.
- The law requires that positive HIV tests be reported to the Ohio Department of Health.

What Does a Negative Test Mean? It means no HIV antibodies were found, but you could still have HIV. That's because of the window period—the time between when a person gets HIV and when a test can find it. The window period varies from person to person and by the type of HIV test. Depending on your risk, you may need to take another test in the next 30-90 days.

You Have a Choice: You can choose NOT to take this test at any point.

- You can test **confidentially**, which means you get a copy of your results with your name on it. Your test results cannot be given to anyone unless you say so.
- You can test **anonymously**, which means your name will not be used. If you choose anonymous, you cannot get a copy of your results.

Please Ask Questions! If you have any questions about this test, please ask a doctor, a counselor or call the Ohio HIV/STI Hotline at 1-800-332-2437.

I have read the above, or have had it read to me, and I agree to be tested for HIV.

Name _____ Date _____

I have reconsidered and withdraw my consent to a **CONFIDENTIAL** HIV test.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Please Print

Name: _____
Last First M.I.

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ DOB: _____

Op-Scan Number: _____ Photo Identification
Verified: Yes ↑ No ↑

CONFIDENTIAL TESTS ONLY