

# ACTS

**ADVISE  
CONSENT  
TEST  
SUPPORT**

## Streamlined HIV Counseling and Testing

### ADVISE

Routine HIV testing is for all patients.

- HIV is the virus that causes AIDS, only an HIV test can detect infection
- Testing benefits HIV+ patients' health and improves prevention for all
- HIV can be transmitted sexually, via needle-sharing or perinatally

### CONSENT

Use NYS DOH form Part B.

- Testing is voluntary and can be confidential or anonymous
- For patients who test HIV+, NY protects confidentiality and requires partner notification and name reporting
- Obtain signature on consent form

### TEST

Use rapid or conventional test with blood or oral fluid.

- Rapid tests: have patient wait for results
- Conventional tests: verify contact information and make plans to deliver results later, in same manner you deliver other test results

### SUPPORT

Give results and allow time to process.

- **HIV-negative:**
  - Explain the test by itself is not prevention and discuss staying negative
  - Encourage partner testing and annual testing; retest sooner if new risk: pregnancy, unsafe sex, STD, new partner, IV drug use or acutely ill
  - Clarify if client needs to retest in three months (window period)
- **HIV-positive:**
  - Coping: Ask about/respond to patient's concerns, call counselor if needed
  - Treatment: Link patient to care, emphasize benefits of treatment, support
  - Prevention: Discuss prevention and partner disclosure
  - Review DOH reporting, partner notification and domestic violence laws

## Provider Assistance

Warmline: HIV Clinician Telephone  
Consultation Service [800-933-3413](tel:800-933-3413)

NYS HIV Guidelines:  
Counseling & Testing, DV Screening  
[hivguidelines.org](http://hivguidelines.org)

ACTS Routine Testing Guidance  
[ACTSHIVTest.org](http://ACTSHIVTest.org)

HIV Care for Youth  
[718-882-0232](tel:718-882-0232) / [AdolescentAIDS.org](http://AdolescentAIDS.org)

AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)  
[800-542-AIDS](tel:800-542-AIDS)

NY/NJ AIDS Education & Training Ctr.  
[nynjaetc.org](http://nynjaetc.org)

## Patient Assistance

CDC Health Infoline [800-232-4636](tel:800-232-4636)

NYS Anonymous HIV Test Sites  
[800-962-5065](tel:800-962-5065)

Youth-friendly HIV Test/Care Sites  
[GettinBusy.org/testsites](http://GettinBusy.org/testsites)

HIV Services  
NYC: 311 or [800-AIDS-NYC](tel:800-AIDS-NYC)  
NYS: [800-542-2437](tel:800-542-2437)

Partner Notification Program  
NYC: [212-693-1419](tel:212-693-1419)  
NYS: [800-541-2437](tel:800-541-2437)

Substance Abuse  
[800-662-HELP](tel:800-662-HELP)

Domestic Violence  
[800-799-SAFE](tel:800-799-SAFE)

## Local Contacts & Referrals

[ACTSHIVTest.org](http://ACTSHIVTest.org)

