

## Key Points

- Test everyone aged 13 - 64 at least once.**
- Test at least annually for those at risk.**
- Work with your local health jurisdiction to establish a linkage to HIV care plan for all patients who test positive.**

## Who

- Screen everyone aged 13 - 64.<sup>1</sup>
- Test pregnant women and those in labor whose HIV status is unknown.<sup>1</sup>
- Screen patients younger than 13 and older than 64 if they are at risk for HIV.<sup>1</sup>
- Universal HIV screening is recommended by:**
  - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, ages 13-64<sup>1</sup>
  - U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, ages 15-65<sup>2</sup>
  - American Academy of Family Physicians, ages 18-65<sup>3</sup>

## Why

- Over 1600 Arizonans are estimated to be living with undiagnosed HIV infection.<sup>5</sup>**
- Testing reduces the spread of HIV. Individuals who are aware of their HIV positive status take steps to prevent passing HIV on to their sex partners (i.e. wear a condom).<sup>6</sup>
- HIV treatment can lower viral load, reducing the risk of transmitting HIV to others by 96%.<sup>7</sup>
- Individuals unaware of their HIV infection and individual who are aware of their positive status but not in HIV care accounted for 91.5% of the estimated 45,000 transmissions in 2009.<sup>8</sup>

## How

**Arizona HIV testing law does not require written consent to test for HIV.<sup>4</sup>**

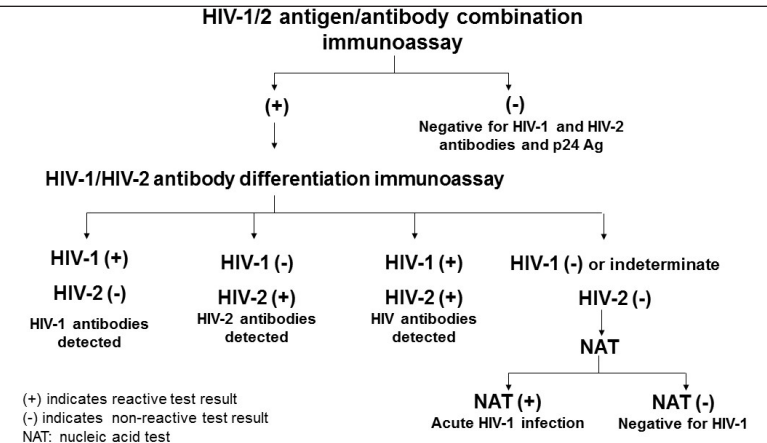
Routine HIV testing can be incorporated into general medical consent.<sup>4</sup>

Formal pre and post test counseling is not required.<sup>4</sup>

**U.S. Preventative Task Force gave HIV screening a grade "A" recommendation.**

This means all insurers, including Medicaid and Medicare, must cover HIV testing at no cost to the patient.<sup>2</sup>

## What



HIV testing technology has vastly improved. Know your clinic's HIV test and appropriate follow-up testing for preliminary positive results. There are two types of HIV screening tests:

**Antibody Test:** Detects the presence of antibodies against HIV, which typically develop within 2-8 weeks after exposure to the virus.<sup>10</sup>

**Combination Antigen-Antibody Test:** Detects both antibodies and the p24 antigen—a protein that is part of the virus. The p24 antigen can be detected 4-7 days before antibodies appear, allowing combination tests to detect acute HIV infection. Western blot cannot be used to confirm preliminary positive results from a combination test.<sup>10</sup>

The HIV-1 Western blot (WB) is no longer recommended for the laboratory diagnosis of HIV due to its inability to detect acute HIV infection and potential to misclassify HIV-2 infection as HIV-1 infection.<sup>11</sup>

Decide if your clinic will provide HIV care or if you will refer out. Set-up linkage to care agreements with local health jurisdictions and HIV/Ryan White providers prior to testing.

Arizona Administrative Code R9-6-202 mandates that local health jurisdictions be notified of positive HIV results. Contact your local health jurisdiction for assistance in completing required documentation. Health officials will contact patients and offer partner services.

## Resources

**Arizona AIDS Education and Training Center**  
Technical assistance, clinical resources, consultation referral  
[aetc-arizona.org](http://aetc-arizona.org); (520) 626-0723.

**Arizona Department of Health Services  
Ryan White Part B (all counties outside Maricopa/Pinal)**  
[www.azdhs.gov/phs/edc/odis/hiv-care](http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/edc/odis/hiv-care); (602) 364-4571  
**Office of HIV Prevention**  
[www.azdhs.gov/phs/hiv](http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/hiv); (602) 364-3597

**Ryan White Part A (Maricopa/Pinal Counties)**  
[www.maricopa.gov/rwpa](http://www.maricopa.gov/rwpa); (602) 506-5341

**Arizona Alliance for Community Health Centers**  
Locate a Community Health Center near you  
[www.aachc.org](http://www.aachc.org); (602) 288-7569

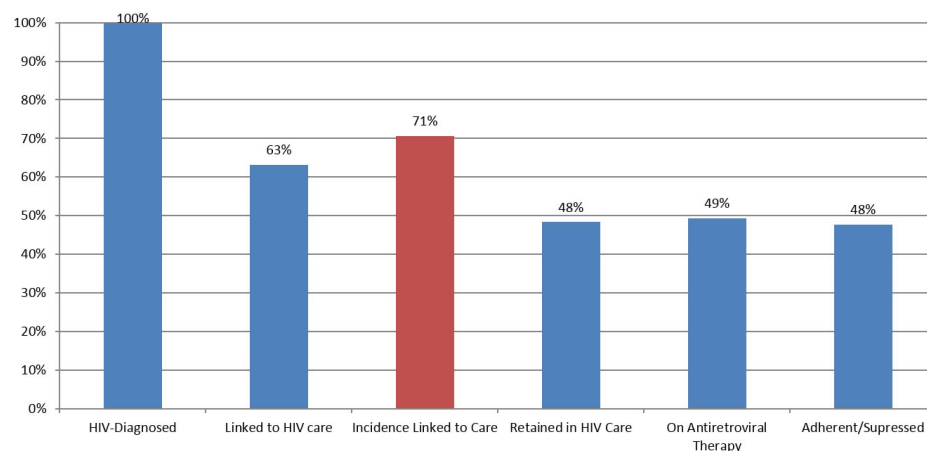
**CDC HIV Screening Webpage**  
<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/guidelines/testing.html>

**HIVAZ.org**

**Banner – University Medical Center Physicians’ Resource Service**  
(For medical providers only) 1-800-777-7552

**National HIV Clinicians Consultation Service**  
Warmline: 800-HIV-4911

## Arizona Spectrum of Care Cascade 2014



## References

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7. Cohen, M.S. et al (2011)' Prevention of HIV-1 Infection with Early Antiretroviral Therapy' The New England Journal of Medicine 365(5):493-505 - See more at: [http://www.avert.org/hiv-treatment-as-prevention.htm#footnote2\\_09oot0a](http://www.avert.org/hiv-treatment-as-prevention.htm#footnote2_09oot0a)
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