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HIV/AIDS Surveillance Quarterly Statistics

Pinellas and Pasco Counties (Area 5)
 October 2006

Silence is death: the crisis of HIV/AIDS in Florida's Black Communities



More blacks in Florida are living with HIV or are already dead from AIDS than any other racial or ethnic group. In Florida in 2005, one in 58 non-Hispanic black males and one in 83 non-Hispanic black females were living with a diagnosed case of HIV/AIDS. This compares with one in 310 non-Hispanic white males, one in 1,625 non-Hispanic white females, one in 148 Hispanic males and one in 553 Hispanic females. There are HIV/AIDS gaps between blacks and whites and gaps between Hispanics and whites, but the black-white gap is the widest by far.

In the 25 years of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, there have been many reports published nationally regarding the impact of HIV/AIDS in black communities. The "Silence is Deadly" report highlights Florida communities where severe racial/ethnic HIV/AIDS disparities persist. To mobilize a comprehensive response to the HIV/AIDS crisis among blacks will involve greater engagement and commitment of many groups: federal, state, and local governments, black leaders, churches, civic organizations, businesses, schools, parents, policy makers, and those living with HIV/AIDS. This document seeks to: break the silence by raising awareness about HIV/AIDS among blacks; encourage local governments and communities to expand and strengthen their responses to the HIV/AIDS epidemic among blacks; encourage individuals to be tested for HIV/AIDS; increase access to HIV prevention and care services; reduce barriers to HIV testing, prevention and care by reducing HIV/AIDS stigma and stimulate the development of a plan to address the disproportionate impact that HIV/AIDS is having on black communities.

To access the full report, please go to: http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Disease_ctr/aid/index.html

Source: Florida Department of Health, Division of Disease Control, Bureau of HIV/AIDS (2006).

Revised Recommendations for Routine HIV Testing in Private Health-Care Settings



The following is a "Dear Colleague" letter written by CDC Directors, Julie L. Gerberding, M.D., M.P.H. and Kevin A. Fenton, M.D., Ph.D., released September 21, 2006.

Today's release of the "Revised Recommendations for HIV Testing of Adults, Adolescents, and Pregnant Women in Health-Care Settings" (*Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, Recommendations and Reports*) signals an important step in addressing the ongoing HIV/AIDS epidemic in the United States. The new recommendations, which replace the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) 1993 "Recommendations for HIV Testing Services for Inpatients and Outpatients in Acute-Care Hospital Settings," advise HIV screening for adult, adolescent, and pregnant patients in the United States. Voluntary HIV screening will allow more people to know whether they are HIV infected—an important consideration for maintaining health and reducing the spread of the virus to others.

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- We would like to take this opportunity to welcome Dongming Cui, M.D., Dr.PH to the Division of Disease Control as interim Epidemiology Program Manager; effective date October 13, 2006.
- Please call the HIV/AIDS surveillance office at 727-824-6903 if you need HIV/AIDS reporting forms, specific HIV/AIDS statistical information, would like to have a brief HIV/AIDS Surveillance In-Service for your staff in your office, or would like to have your HIV/AIDS cases reviewed in your office. Dante Ross, John Maldonado, Lissette Arias, Nicole Rondon or Beth Sudduth are here to assist you with reporting and/or any statistics you might need! If you're a health care provider in Pasco County and need to report an HIV or AIDS case please call our office or you can call Pamela Simmons at the New Port Richey Pasco CHD at 727-862-0782 (x173).



Pinellas County AIDS Statistics

All Pinellas County AIDS data is cumulative from 1981 to Sept. 30, 2006
Source: Pinellas County Health Department, HIV/AIDS Surveillance

The following tables will appear on each quarterly newsletter so that continuity of data can be maintained. Please visit our website for previous newsletters and local HIV/AIDS information at: www.pinellashealth.com

Table 1. AIDS Cases – by ADULT Risk Categories

Exposure	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
Gay/Bisexual Men	2352 (69%)	0 (0%)	2352 (58%)
Injecting Drug Users (IDU)	395 (12%)	198 (30%)	593 (15%)
Gay/Bi Male & IDU	251 (7%)	0 (0%)	251 (6%)
Heterosexual Contact	210 (6%)	380 (58%)	590 (15%)
Transfusion Recipients	28 (1%)	25 (4%)	53 (1%)
Coagulation Disorder	12 (0%)	0 (0%)	12 (0%)
Risk Not Reported	146 (5%)	50 (8%)	196 (5%)
Total (%)	3394 (100%)	653 (100%)	4047 (100%)

Table 2. AIDS Cases – by PEDIATRIC Risk Categories

Exposure	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
Mother with HIV	10 (77%)	13 (93%)	23 (85%)
Hemophilia	2 (15%)	0 (0%)	2 (7%)
Transfusion Recipients	1 (8%)	0 (0%)	1 (4%)
Risk Not Reported	0 (0%)	1 (7%)	1 (4%)
Total (%)	13 (100%)	14 (100%)	27 (100%)

"HIV/AIDS is the leading cause of death among black males and black females aged 25-44 years."

Source: Florida Department of Health

Table 3. AIDS Cases – by RACE

Race	Adults (%)	Pediatric (%)	Total (%)
White	2763 (68%)	13 (48%)	2776 (68%)
Black	1063 (26%)	12 (45%)	1075 (26%)
Hispanic	179 (5%)	2 (7%)	181 (5%)
Legacy Asian/Pacific Is.	10 (0%)	0 (0%)	10 (0%)
Am. Indian/AK. Native	7 (0%)	0 (0%)	7 (0%)
Asian	2 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (0%)
Native Hawaiiin/Pacific Is	1 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (0%)
Multi-Race	22 (1%)	0 (0%)	22 (1%)
Total (%)	4047 (100%)	27 (100%)	4074 (100%)

Table 4. AIDS Cases – by AGE

Age	Cases (%)	Deaths (%)	Age
0-4	20 (0%)	2246 (55%)	0-4
5-12	7 (0%)		5-12
13-19	24 (1%)		13-19
20-29	597 (15%)		20-29
30-39	1688 (41%)		30-39
40-49	1182 (29%)		40-49
50-59	408 (10%)		50-59
60-64	86 (2%)		60-64
65-69	40 (1%)		65-69
70 +	22 (1%)		70 +
Total (%)	4074 (100%)	2261 (55%)	Total (%)

Pinellas County HIV (only) Statistics

All Pinellas County HIV data is cumulative from 7/1/97 to Sept. 30, 2006
Source: Pinellas County Health Department, HIV/AIDS Surveillance

Table 5. HIV Cases – by ADULT Risk Categories

Exposure	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
Gay/Bisexual Men	608 (66%)	0 (0%)	608 (47%)
Injecting Drug Users (IDU)	69 (7%)	75 (21%)	144 (11%)
Gay/Bi Male & IDU	55 (6%)	0 (0%)	55 (4%)
Heterosexual Contact	90 (10%)	217 (60%)	307 (24%)
Transfusion Recipients	2 (0%)	1 (0%)	3 (0%)
Coagulation Disorder	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Risk Not Reported	100 (11%)	71 (19%)	171 (14%)
Total (%)	924 (100%)	364 (100%)	1288 (100%)

Table 6. HIV Cases – by PEDIATRIC Risk Categories

Exposure	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
Mother with HIV	4 (100%)	3 (75%)	7 (88%)
Hemophilia	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Transfusion Recipients	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Risk Not Reported	0 (0%)	1 (25%)	1 (12%)
Total (%)	4 (100%)	4 (100%)	8 (100%)

"By the end of 2004, an estimated 93,163 Hispanics with AIDS had died."

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Table 7. HIV Cases – by RACE

Race	Adults (%)	Pediatric (%)	Total (%)
White	723 (56%)	2 (25%)	725 (56%)
Black	459 (36%)	5 (63%)	464 (36%)
Hispanic	76 (6%)	1 (12%)	77 (6%)
Legacy Asian/Pacific Is.	2 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (0%)
Am. Indian/AK. Native	4 (0%)	0 (0%)	4 (0%)
Asian	4 (0%)	0 (0%)	4 (0%)
Native Hawaiiin/Pacific Is	3 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (0%)
Multi-Race	17 (2%)	0 (0%)	17 (2%)
Total (%)	1288 (100%)	8 (100%)	1296 (100%)

Table 8. HIV Cases – by AGE

Age	Cases (%)	Deaths (%)	Age
0-4	4 (0%)	41 (3%)	0-4
5-12	4 (0%)		5-12
13-19	56 (4%)		13-19
20-29	315 (24%)		20-29
30-39	464 (36%)		30-39
40-49	318 (25%)		40-49
50-59	110 (9%)		50-59
60-64	14 (1%)		60-64
65-69	4 (0%)		65-69
70 +	7 (1%)		70 +
Total (%)	1296 (100%)	41 (3%)	Total (%)

Pasco County AIDS Statistics

All Pasco County AIDS data is cumulative from 1981 to Sept. 30, 2006
Source: Pinellas County Health Department, HIV/AIDS Surveillance



Table 9. AIDS Cases – by ADULT Risk Categories

Exposure	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
Gay/Bisexual Men	325 (55%)	0 (0%)	325 (45%)
Injecting Drug Users (IDU)	79 (14%)	40 (28%)	119 (16%)
Gay/Bi Male & IDU	67 (11%)	0 (0%)	67 (9%)
Heterosexual Contact	58 (10%)	88 (61%)	146 (20%)
Transfusion Recipients	13 (2%)	3 (2%)	16 (2%)
Coagulation Disorder	3 (1%)	0 (0%)	3 (0%)
Risk Not Reported	41 (7%)	13 (9%)	54 (8%)
Total (%)	586 (100%)	144 (100%)	730 (100%)

Table 11. AIDS Cases – by RACE

Race	Adults (%)	Pediatric (%)	Total (%)
White	583 (80%)		
Black	83 (12%)		
Hispanic	57 (8%)	N/A	N/A
Legacy Asian/Pacific Is.	3 (0%)		
Am. Indian/AK. Native	0 (0%)		
Multi-Race/Other	4 (0%)		
Total (%)	730 (100%)	3 (100%)	733 (100%)

Table 10. AIDS Cases – by PEDIATRIC Risk Categories

Exposure	Total (%)
Mother with HIV	3 (100%)
Hemophilia	
Transfusion Recipients	0 (100%)
Risk Not Reported	
Total (%)	3 (100%)

Table 12. AIDS Cases – by AGE

Age	Cases (%)	Deaths (%)	Age
0-12	3 (0%)		0-12
13-19	6 (1%)		13-19
20-29	94 (13%)		20-29
30-39	312 (43%)		30-39
40-49	207 (28%)	N/A	40-49
50-59	82 (11%)		50-59
60-64	8 (1%)		60-64
65-69	11 (2%)		65-69
70 +	10 (1%)		70 +
Total (%)	733 (100%)	367 (50%)	Total (%)

“At the end of 2003, an estimated 1,039,000 to 1,185,000 persons in the United States were living with HIV/AIDS, with 24-27% undiagnosed and unaware of their HIV infection.”

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Pasco County HIV (only) Statistics

All Pasco County HIV data is cumulative from 7/1/97 to Sept. 30, 2006
Source: Pinellas County Health Department, HIV/AIDS Surveillance



Due to the fact that some of the cell sizes for Pasco County were <3, some of the data has not been completely stratified.

Table 13. Adult HIV Cases – by Risk Categories

Exposure	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
Gay/Bisexual Men	91 (58%)	0 (0%)	91 (38%)
Injecting Drug Users (IDU)	11 (7%)	11 (14%)	22 (9%)
Gay/Bi Male & IDU	10 (6%)	0 (0%)	10 (4%)
Heterosexual Contact	18 (11%)	50 (63%)	68 (28%)
Transfusion Recipients			
Coagulation Disorder			
Risk Not Reported/Other	28 (18%)	19 (23%)	47 (21%)
Total (%)	158 (100%)	80 (100%)	238 (100%)

Table 14. Adult HIV Cases – by RACE

Race	Adults (%)	Pediatric (%)	Total (%)
White	179 (75%)		
Black	34 (14%)		
Hispanic	20 (8%)		
Legacy Asian/Pacific Is.		N/A	N/A
Am. Indian/AK. Native			
Asian			
Multi-Race/Other	5 (3%)		
Total (%)	238 (100%)	<3	N/A

Table 15. Adult HIV Cases – by AGE

Age	Cases (%)	Deaths (%)	Age
13-19	17 (7%)		13-19
20-29	63 (26%)		20-29
30-39	87 (37%)		30-39
40-49	47 (20%)	7 (3%)	40-49
50-59	18 (8%)		50-59
60-64	3 (1%)		60-64
65 +	3 (1%)		65 +
Total (%)	238 (100%)	7 (3%)	Total (%)

There have been <3 HIV pediatric cases reported for Pasco County as of July 1997.

Hillsborough County AIDS Statistics

All Hillsborough County AIDS data is cumulative from 1981 to Sept. 30, 2006
Source: Florida Department of Health, Bureau of HIV/AIDS



Table 16. AIDS Cases – by ADULT Risk Categories

Exposure	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
Gay/Bisexual Men	2890 (61%)	0 (0%)	2890 (48%)
Injecting Drug Users (IDU)	601 (13%)	354 (26%)	955 (16%)
Gay/Bi Male & IDU	380 (8%)	0 (0%)	380 (6%)
Heterosexual Contact	493 (10%)	789 (59%)	1282 (21%)
Transfusion Recipients	28 (1%)	24 (2%)	52 (1%)
Coagulation Disorder	18 (0%)	1 (0%)	19 (0%)
Risk Not Reported	329 (7%)	175 (13%)	504 (8%)
Total (%)	4739 (100%)	1343 (100%)	6082 (100%)

Table 17. AIDS Cases – by PEDIATRIC Risk Categories

Exposure	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
Mother with HIV	33 (78%)	44 (96%)	77 (87%)
Hemophilia	4 (10%)	0 (0%)	4 (5%)
Transfusion Recipients	4 (10%)	0 (0%)	4 (5%)
Risk Not Reported	1 (2%)	2 (4%)	3 (3%)
Total (%)	42 (100%)	46 (100%)	88 (100%)

"In 2004, 295,602 HIV tests were performed at registered HIV testing sites in Florida. Of these, 5,723 were positive."

Source: Florida Department of Health

Table 18. AIDS Cases – by RACE

Race	Adults (%)	Pediatric (%)	Total (%)
White	2871 (47%)	18 (23%)	2889 (47%)
Black	2283 (37%)	45 (59%)	2328 (38%)
Hispanic	884 (15%)	14 (18%)	898 (14%)
Legacy Asian/Pacific Is.	8 (0%)	0 (0%)	8 (0%)
Am. Indian/AK. Native	4 (0%)	0 (0%)	4 (0%)
Asian	2 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (0%)
Multi-Race	41 (1%)	0 (0%)	41 (1%)
Total (%)	6093 (100%)	77 (100%)	6170 (100%)

Table 19. AIDS Cases – by AGE

Age	Cases (%)	Deaths (%)	Age
0-4	60 (1%)	32 (42%)	0-4
5-12	17 (0%)		5-12
13-19	43 (1%)		13-19
20-29	1047 (17%)		20-29
30-39	2529 (41%)		30-39
40-49	1678 (27%)		40-49
50-59	581 (9%)		50-59
60-64	114 (2%)		60-64
65-69	55 (1%)		65-69
70+	46 (1%)		70+
Total (%)	6170 (100%)	3289 (53%)	Total (%)

Hillsborough County HIV (only) Statistics

All Hillsborough County HIV data is cumulative from 7/1/97 to Sept. 30, 2006
Source: Florida Department of Health, Bureau of HIV/AIDS

Table 20. HIV Cases – by ADULT Risk Categories

Exposure	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
Gay/Bisexual Men	724 (53%)	0 (0%)	724 (35%)
Injecting Drug Users (IDU)	93 (7%)	93 (13%)	186 (9%)
Gay/Bi Male & IDU	63 (5%)	0 (0%)	63 (3%)
Heterosexual Contact	199 (14%)	398 (54%)	597 (28%)
Transfusion Recipients	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Coagulation Disorder	2 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (0%)
Risk Not Reported	281 (21%)	244 (33%)	525 (25%)
Total (%)	1362 (100%)	735 (100%)	2097 (100%)

Table 21. HIV Cases – by PEDIATRIC Risk Categories

Exposure	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
Mother with HIV	14 (93%)	16 (100%)	30 (97%)
Hemophilia	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Transfusion Recipients	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Risk Not Reported	1 (7%)	0 (0%)	1 (3%)
Total (%)	15 (100%)	16 (100%)	31 (100%)

You can get Hillsborough and other Florida county data on the Florida Department of Health website: www.doh.state.fl.us
(once at the site click on "AIDS/HIV")

Table 22. HIV Cases – by RACE

Race	Adults (%)	Pediatric (%)	Total (%)
White	744 (36%)	5 (16%)	749 (35%)
Black	1003 (48%)	21 (68%)	1024 (48%)
Hispanic	324 (15%)	5 (16%)	329 (16%)
Legacy Asian/Pacific Is.	1 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (0%)
Am. Indian/AK. Native	5 (0%)	0 (0%)	5 (0%)
Asian	1 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (0%)
Native Hawaii/Pacific Is	2 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (2%)
Multi-Race	17 (1%)	0 (0%)	17 (1%)
Total (%)	2097 (100%)	31 (100%)	2128 (100%)

Table 23. HIV Cases – by AGE

Age	Cases (%)	Deaths (%)	Age
0-4	21 (1%)	76 (4%)	0-4
5-12	10 (1%)		5-12
13-19	87 (4%)		13-19
20-29	579 (27%)		20-29
30-39	717 (34%)		30-39
40-49	494 (23%)		40-49
50-59	155 (7%)		50-59
60-64	43 (2%)		60-64
65-69	13 (1%)		65-69
70+	9 (0%)		70+
Total (%)	2128 (100%)	76 (4%)	Total (%)

Florida HIV/AIDS Statistics

Source: Florida Department of Health, Bureau of HIV/AIDS
HIV/AIDS, STD & TB Monthly Surveillance Report, #264



Table 24. Cumulative HIV Case Counts for Florida (07/01/97—08/31/06)

	HIV	Deaths (%)
Adult	36380	1518 (4%)
Pediatric	383	6 (2%)
Total	36763	1524 (4%)

Table 25. Cumulative AIDS Case Counts for Florida (1981—08/31/06)

	AIDS	Deaths (%)
Adult	102690	55742 (54%)
Pediatric	1512	850 (56%)
Total	104202	56592 (54%)

Table 26. Cumulative HIV/AIDS Case Counts in Surrounding Counties (as of 08/31/06)

County	HIV	AIDS
Hillsborough	3330	6145
Pinellas	1977	4049
Polk	836	1757
Sarasota	348	1011
Manatee	524	978
Pasco	354	692
Highlands	117	183
Hernando	91	200
Hardee	37	77

Table 27. Cumulative HIV/AIDS Case Counts in the Top 7 Florida Counties (as of 08/31/06)

County	HIV	AIDS
Miami-Dade	15256	29328
Broward	9005	16316
Palm Beach	4528	9771
Orange	3999	6218
Hillsborough	3330	6145
Duval	2910	5308
Pinellas	1977	4049

United States HIV/AIDS Statistics



Table 28. Cumulative HIV/AIDS Case Counts for U.S. (as of 09/30/05)

	HIV	AIDS	% AIDS Deaths
Adult	241923	940282	53%
Pediatric	5028	9446	56%
Total	246951	949728	53%

Source: Florida HIV/AIDS, STD & TB Monthly Surveillance Report, #264

Table 30. Cumulative AIDS Cases of 10 Leading U.S. States (as of 09/30/05)

1. New York	171276	6. Illinois	32334
2. California	138141	7. Pennsylvania	31712
3. Florida	100516	8. Georgia	29895
4. Texas	67030	9. Maryland	28924
5. New Jersey	48178	10. Massachusetts	18776

Source: Florida HIV/AIDS, STD & TB Monthly Surveillance Report, #264

Table 29. Cumulative HIV* Cases of 5 Leading U.S. States (as of 09/30/05)

1. New York (12/00)	40853	16%
2. Florida (07/97)	35138	14%
3. Texas (02/94)	22738	9%
4. New Jersey (01/92)	17314	7%
5. North Carolina (02/90)	13036	5%

Source: Florida HIV/AIDS, STD & TB Monthly Surveillance Report, #264

*Data only from those states where HIV is reportable & includes only persons reported with HIV infection who have not developed AIDS

Table 31. Cumulative AIDS Cases of 20 Leading U.S. Cities/MSAs (as of 12/31/04)

1. New York City	153784	6. Chicago	27872	11. Newark, N.J.	19363	16. San Diego	12131
2. Los Angeles area	55106	7. Philadelphia	25997	12. Dallas	18701	17. Tampa-St. Pete	10242
3. San Francisco	29789	8. Houston	23999	13. Baltimore	18568	18. Detroit	9474
4. Washington D.C.	28758	9. San Juan, PR	20474	14. Ft. Lauderdale	15280	19. W. Palm Beach	9282
5. Miami	27964	10. Atlanta	19578	15. Boston	12902	20. Oakland, Ca.	9047

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, Vol. 16

World HIV/AIDS Statistics



From W.H.O. (www.who.org) & UNAIDS (www.unaids.org):
Reported World AIDS Cases as of 5/00: 2,201,468
Estimated living World HIV/AIDS Cases as of 2004: 39.4 million
Estimated new HIV infections in World in 2004: 4.9 million
Estimated World deaths due to HIV/AIDS in 2004: 3.1 million

Useful Web Links/Sites for Additional HIV/AIDS Information

Florida HIV/AIDS Statistics: <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/>
 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov/>
 World Health Organization: <http://www.who.int/en/>
 PAHO: AIDS site: <http://www.paho.org/english/ad/fch/ai/aids.htm>
 Int'l Assoc. of Physicians in AIDS care: <http://www.iapac.org/>
 Florida AIDS Hotline site: <http://www.211bigbend.org/hotlines/hiv/>
 HIV/AIDS InSite Information: <http://hivinsite.ucsf.edu/>
 HIV/AIDS Info/Treatment Site: <http://www.aidsinfo.nih.gov/>

Revised Recommendations for Routine HIV Testing in Private Health Care Settings (from page 1)

These recommendations come at a time when approximately 25 percent of the more than one million persons infected with HIV in this country are unaware of their infection. People who are infected but not aware of their condition are unable to take advantage of the therapies that can keep them healthy and extend their lives, or have the knowledge to protect their sex or drug-use partners from becoming infected. Knowing if one is HIV-infected or HIV-negative confers great benefits in healthy decision making.

The recommendations are intended for all healthcare providers in the public and private sectors working in settings where other diagnostic and screening tests are performed routinely. These settings include hospital emergency departments, inpatient services (e.g., labor and delivery), correctional healthcare facilities, clinics (e.g., substance abuse treatment, public health, community, pediatric and adolescent care, prenatal care), and other primary care settings. These recommendations do not apply to non-medical settings, such as community outreach programs.

Many of CDC's professional partners, including the American Medical Association, the American Academy of HIV Medicine, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the National Medical Association, and the National Association of Community Health Centers, support these recommendations and will encourage their members to implement them as well as provide related training and information. Similarly, CDC will release implementation guidance for these recommendations in 2007 in addition to providing ongoing technical assistance to our partners.

You may visit our website (<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/testing/healthcare/>) for the following information: the published recommendations, frequently asked questions for professionals and the general public, and links to pertinent articles.

We encourage you to support these recommendations in whatever capacity you serve. CDC considers these recommendations a milestone in public health relating to the HIV/AIDS epidemic, one that will enable us to better fulfill our mission of protecting and promoting the health of all Americans.

Note: In Florida these new CDC recommendations will apply for only the private sector. Per current Florida law all public health care providers and community based organizations must continue to provide pre-test and post-test counseling to all individuals testing for HIV. This practice will remain in place unless Florida law is revised in the future.

Florida law requires cases of AIDS to be reported by anyone who diagnoses or treats a person with AIDS, with a \$500 fine per case for failure to report. **NOTE:** A person who tests positive for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) on or after July 1, 1997 is reportable. Patients who are diagnosed with any of the following conditions are considered reportable per Florida State Law: (1) **Western Blot** positive or **qualitative PCR** positive tests done **after** July 1, 1997, (2) HIV positive patients that have **CD4 tests** with values < absolute 200 or < 14%, and/or (3) HIV positive patients with any of the 26 CDC **AIDS defining opportunistic infections**. HIV/AIDS reporting information is treated with the STRICTEST CONFIDENTIALITY. Please call us or send (DO NOT FAX!) your completed HIV/AIDS case report in an envelope marked "CONFIDENTIAL" to:

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