

Testing and Linkage to Care

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MAC Meeting

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HIV Testing Requirements

- Past CDC HIV surveillance case definition
 - Positive HIV Antibody test must be “supplemented” with either WB or IFA
 - Positive result from viral load, p24 antigen, or HIV viral culture test
- DHSP’s Past Approach
 - All community HIV testing providers had to perform VL or WB testing for anyone testing positive

HIV Testing Requirements

- CDC's new HIV surveillance case definition
 - Supplemental tests not limited to WB or IFA
 - Includes other antibody tests as part of approved algorithm
- Rapid testing algorithm
 - For persons with 2 Positive results on 2 separate rapid testing platforms → No WB or VL needed
 - If positive single rapid test or inconclusive results, still need VL (or WB)

HIV Testing

- Are your clinics doing a Western blot or viral load for new patients who provide a reasonable history of HIV diagnosis?
- Ryan White funding allows for reimbursement of visits that include HIV diagnostic work up in setting of linkage to care

Testing and Linkage

- DHSP funded HIV Testing Services (HTS) part of TLC+ initiative
- For clients testing HIV+
 - HTS Providers assist in making 1st medical appointment with HIV provider
 - HTS Providers are incentivized by DHSP to follow up and confirm completion of 1st appointment

Linkage to Care by Test Year, 2006-08

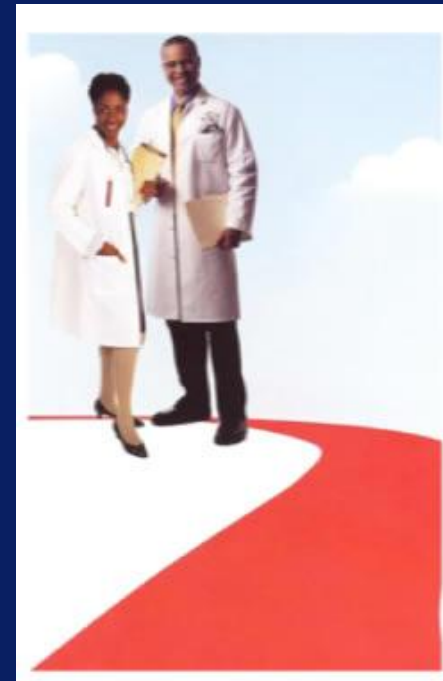
Linked to Care by Test Year, Jan 2006 -Dec 2008¹ (n = 807)

Characteristic	No.	%
Linked to Care²	528	65.4%
2006 (n=273)	164	60.1%
Within 3 months	123	45.1%
Within 6 months	18	6.6%
Within 1 year	23	8.4%
2007 (n=237)	163	68.8%
Within 3 months	138	58.2%
Within 6 months	17	7.2%
Within 1 year	8	3.4%
2008 (n=297)	201	67.7%
Within 3 months	177	59.6%
Within 6 months	13	4.4%
Within 1 year	11	3.7%



“Red Carpet Treatment”

- Washington D.C. Initiative
 - Rapid enrollment program for newly diagnosed HIV positive patients
 - Patients ask for “Red Carpet Entry” as code to alert clinic receptionists of their need for expedited entry into care
 - “Red Carpet” HIV clinics have a “concierge” for these patients



Testing and Linkage

- Do your clinics have special tracking process or expedited access for patients with a new diagnosis of HIV?
- What are barriers to providing this “red carpet” treatment?
- Who could serve as your concierge?