

WHERE TO GET HELP

If you have questions about HIV and your health, you can talk to your doctor or health care provider, or call or visit your local health department.

If you need help talking to your partner(s), call Partner Counseling and Referral Services at 1-800-358-9001.

Ask for the HIV PCRS Program Coordinator. This is a free, confidential service in Maryland.

If you have questions about the new HIV reporting law, call the Maryland AIDS Administration at 1-800-358-9001 or visit www.dhmf.state.md.us/AIDS.



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of
Health and Mental Hygiene

This brochure was prepared by

The Maryland AIDS Administration
500 North Calvert Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
www.dhmf.state.md.us/AIDS

and

Center for a Healthy Maryland
MedChi, The Maryland State
Medical Society
1211 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201
www.healthymaryland.org

Center for a
HealthyMaryland

MedChi

The Maryland State Medical Society



HIV/AIDS REPORTING

THE LAW HAS CHANGED IN MARYLAND

*What You
Need to Know*

THE NEW HIV/AIDS REPORTING LAW: *What You Need to Know*

BE HIV/AIDS SMART

*The More You Know,
The Safer You Are*

Which Of These Is True?

1. HIV is the virus that causes the disease AIDS. TRUE!

2. There are things you can do to stop from getting HIV or AIDS. TRUE!

3. You can tell if someone has HIV or AIDS just by looking at them.FALSE!

4. I can tell if I get HIV.
FALSE! *The only way to be sure you have HIV or AIDS is to get tested.*

5. Confidential testing means that anyone can find out that I have HIV.
FALSE! *Confidential testing means that only you and your health care providers will know your HIV status.*

6. I can only get an HIV test at a few special places.
FALSE! *You can get tested at a doctor's office, hospital, health clinic, nursing home or hospice, drug rehabilitation or correctional facility.*

KNOW THE LAW

*This Is What The Change
In Law Means*

- Since 1985, if you were diagnosed with AIDS, your name has been reported to the health department.
- Doctors, laboratories and institutions report HIV/AIDS cases to the health department.
- NOW, if you have a positive HIV test or ever had a positive test, your name will be reported to the health department the same way as other diseases such as hepatitis and syphilis.
- The law was changed so that Maryland can keep receiving federal funding for HIV/AIDS treatment and services.

KNOW YOUR HIV STATUS

*You Can
Save Lives*

- You can live with HIV. New treatments can keep you from getting sick for many years.
- If you are pregnant and have HIV, you can take medicines so that your baby does not get HIV.
- Talking to your partner(s) can be hard, but you can help them get the services they need.
- If you are HIV positive, a trained counselor can help you talk to your partner(s), *or* they can talk to your partner(s) without using your name.

YOUR NAME AND HIV STATUS IS PROTECTED.

Your confidentiality is protected by law.

Your information will not be made public.

HIV/AIDS Reporting helps fight HIV/AIDS in Maryland.