



HIV Rapid Testing

In Substance Abuse Treatment Programs

- Despite substantial increases in effective HIV management over the past 15 years, new HIV cases have continued to appear in the United States at a steady rate.
- Substance use continues to be a major factor in the transmission of HIV/AIDS via drug injection and risky sexual behavior.
- Nearly 21% of HIV infected persons are unaware of their infection, and the majority of new HIV infections are transmitted by these individuals.
- Advances in rapid HIV testing technology allow for HIV testing to be readily accessible with fast results, minimizing loss to follow-up and ensuring that those who are tested receive their results.

Consider This...

Research and resources are now available to support the implementation of routine on-site rapid HIV testing among patients in substance abuse treatment centers.

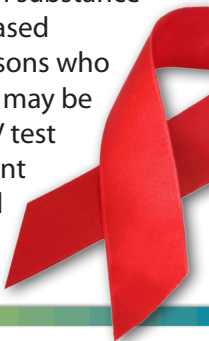
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The Blending Initiative

The NIDA Study

The NIDA Clinical Trials Network conducted the multisite HIV Rapid Testing and Counseling Study to examine the efficacy of on-site rapid testing and risk-reduction counseling in increasing the receipt of results and reducing HIV risk behaviors of patients in substance abuse treatment programs.

Research showed that offering this testing in substance abuse treatment centers substantially increased receipt of HIV test results and identified persons who were unaware of their HIV infection. Testing may be implemented for less than \$40 per rapid HIV test and is cost-effective. Substance use treatment patients are receptive to on-site testing, and are more likely to get tested than if they are referred to another agency for testing.



Blending Initiative Products

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration's Addiction Technology Transfer Network have partnered to promote the dissemination of the results from drug abuse research. This collaboration (the blending of research and practice) has produced numerous research-based training workshops and products designed specifically for substance abuse treatment providers.

The HIV Rapid Testing Blending Products can be found on a comprehensive website www.attc`vii`ad.org/rapidtesting S`V include:



Video interviews with researchers, treatment providers, executive directors, and clients about the value of Onsite Rapid HIV Testing



A Fact Sheet that provides details about the urgent need to provide routine onsite HIV testing and substantive information about the NIDA Study



A Web Guide that provides links to valuable testing and other implementation resources

The **Blending Initiative**



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