

NWT Clinical Practice Information Notice

UPON RECEIPT: (1) PLEASE FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS BELOW
 (2) FILE THIS NOTICE IN SECTION C, CLINICAL PRACTICE INFORMATION BINDER FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

The following clinical practice has been approved for use in the Northwest Territories Health and Social Services system, and has been distributed to:

Hospitals
 Community Health Centers
 Public Health Units
 Doctors' Offices
 Social Services Offices
 Other: CDC Manuals

The information contained in this document is a Departmental:

Policy
 Standard
 Protocol
 Procedure
 Guidelines

Title: Rapid Point-of-Care HIV Testing

Effective Date: December 13, 2001

Statement of approved clinical practice:

The NWT Laboratory Advisory Committee recommends the use of Point-of-Care HIV Testing where HIV test results affects clinical practice. Therefore, Point-of-Care HIV Testing may be used in all hospitals, health centers, public health units and medical clinics in the Northwest Territories under the following circumstances:


- Source and contact testing for decision-making for HIV post-exposure-prophylaxis.
- Pregnant women who did not receive prenatal screening.
- Critical illness in patients with unknown HIV serological status.
- Screening of local blood donors in emergency situations.
- Infants of unscreened mothers prior to BCG administration.

Place the attached Discussion Paper on Point-of-Care HIV testing in section 3 of **the HIV Infection and AIDS: Information for Health Professionals Manual** dated August 1999.

NB: Informed consent is still required as noted in the HIV/AIDS Manual.

Attachments:

- Rapid Point-of-Care HIV Test ordering information
- Rapid Point-of-Care HIV Testing Decision Paper

This clinical practice is approved on December 13, 2001.  _____
 (signature)

Assistant Deputy Minister
 Chief Medical Officer of Health
 Director, Child & Family Services
 Director, Adoptions