



Ohio Department of Health
246 N. High Street
Columbus, Oh 43215

SAMPLE CONSENT FORM FOR HIV ANTIBODY TEST

What is HIV? The Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) is the virus that causes AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).

How Do People Get HIV? People may be infected by:

1. Having sex with someone whom is HIV infected and not using a condom. Vaginal, anal and oral sex can spread HIV.
2. Sharing the same needle while using drugs with someone who is HIV infected.
3. Having a blood transfusion before 1985.
4. Being born to a mother who is infected with HIV.

How is an HIV Test Done? A sample of your blood or other body fluid is tested for antibodies. If the test is positive, more tests are done on the same sample to make sure the first test was right. If the other tests come back positive, you are considered to be infected.

What Does a Positive Test Mean? A positive test does NOT mean you have AIDS. It means that you have the virus that can lead to AIDS, which can take up to 10 years to develop. It also means you could pass the virus to someone else through sex or sharing needles. If your test is positive, you should:

- See a doctor to find out what medicines you can take to help keep you healthy.
- Talk with an expert about how to keep from passing the virus to others. The person who gives you the test can help you.
- Work with staff from the Ohio Department of Health to tell anyone you have sex or shared needles with that they need to get an HIV test. Your name will NOT be used.

What If The Test Is Negative? It means no antibodies to the virus were found. However, you may need to take another test if you have had unsafe sex or shared needles in the last three months. It can sometimes take as long as six months for antibodies to show up on a test.

You Have A Choice: You can choose NOT to take this test at any point during your clinic visit by simply leaving the clinic site. If you are in a hospital or other health care facility, you need to let someone know within one hour after blood is drawn that you have changed your mind.

- If you choose to take this test, you can take a confidential test. This means you may have a written copy of your results. This means your name is on the results. Your test results cannot be given to anyone unless you sign a paper giving consent. The law requires that positive HIV tests be reported to the Ohio Department of Health.
- If you do not want your name used, you can take an anonymous test. Your name is not used. Someone tells you the results, but no written results are given to you.

Please Ask Questions! If you have any questions about this test, please ask a doctor, a counselor or call the Ohio AIDS/HIV/STD Hotline at 1-800-332-AIDS (2437). The hotline is a free call.

I have read the above, or have had it read to me, and I agree to be tested for HIV.

Name _____

Date _____

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