



2004 Revised Edition

*January 2008 Update*

**H I V**

**Counseling & Testing**

**Resource Directory**

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New York State  
Department of Health  
AIDS Institute



# **HIV Counseling and Testing Resource Directory**

*2004 Revised Edition  
[January 2008 Update]*

**New York State Department of Health**  
Richard F. Daines, M.D., Commissioner

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Your comments on this resource directory are most welcome. For questions, comments or additional copies of the directory, please write to:

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# Message from the AIDS Institute Director

Counseling and Testing for HIV is a vitally important part of New York's strategy to confront the HIV/AIDS epidemic. For a person at risk who may be infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, knowing one's HIV status is the first step in gaining access to treatment that can lead to a longer, healthier life. That knowledge can also lead to personal actions that can reduce the risk of HIV transmission to others. For an uninfected individual, knowledge of HIV status, when coupled with effective counseling and support, can assist the person in reducing their infection risk in the future.

This resource directory has been updated to help ensure that those you serve can be referred to local, easily accessible, HIV counseling and testing providers. For each provider listed, the directory provides an address and a telephone number, indicates whether anonymous testing is available, and provides other service details – including the test methods available, the language capabilities of the provider, and service cost information – to help your clients make decisions about where to seek counseling and testing services. Please do what you can to encourage those you serve to learn their HIV status by seeking HIV counseling and testing at their earliest opportunity. Thank you for your ongoing efforts to improve the health and well-being of New Yorkers.



Guthrie S. Birkhead, M.D., M.P.H.  
Director, AIDS Institute



## About the HIV Counseling and Testing Resource Directory

HIV counseling and testing (C&T) is an important preventive activity that also serves to facilitate access to care among persons with HIV/AIDS. A vital component of the New York State Department of Health's (NYSDOH) strategy to reduce HIV transmission, HIV C&T provides opportunities for people to learn their HIV status; provides prevention counseling to promote protective behavior and, for those already infected, provides opportunities to prevent transmission to others. In addition, HIV C&T helps individuals obtain referrals for prevention, medical care, and social support services.

There are two types of testing, confidential and anonymous. With confidential testing, the most commonly available option, HIV counseling and testing information, including the test result, is recorded in the patient's medical record. The test result is protected by state law from unauthorized disclosure. Anonymous testing, by contrast, involves no linking of individual identity to the test request or results; written, informed consent is obtained through the use of a coded number system.

The purposes of this resource directory are to alert human service providers to local HIV C&T resources and to connect individuals in need of such services with available community services. The directory has two sections: the first covers New York State exclusive of New York City, while the second covers New York City. Each section is organized by county with HIV C&T service providers in each county listed alphabetically. Toll-free hotline numbers are displayed on the top of the list in counties where NYSDOH-operated anonymous HIV C&T services are available. A brief description of the anonymous counseling and testing services is given on the next page. Additional information is available on the NYSDOH website:

[www.nyhealth.gov/diseases/aids/testing/sites.htm](http://www.nyhealth.gov/diseases/aids/testing/sites.htm)

For every service provider included in the directory, the name, address, phone number, and URL of the agency (if available) are listed first, followed by information on: (1) the availability of anonymous HIV tests; (2) the availability of oral fluid or rapid testing; (3) type of visits available (walk-in, by appointment, evening hours, and weekend hours); (4) languages spoken by counseling staff; and (5) fee information associated with HIV C&T services. Special features, such as multiple service sites and population-specific services are also noted.

Information for this directory was updated from the last edition by a statewide survey of AIDS Institute-funded HIV C&T service providers, and other providers reimbursed by Medicaid for HIV C&T services. The data were collected between January and June, 2004 by mailed surveys addressed to HIV C&T program directors (or equivalent) at various agencies. Follow-up phone contacts were made to ensure that all surveys had been returned to the Institute.

Although every attempt was made to be thorough, this directory cannot be presumed to be exhaustive, and service information may have changed since data collection. Therefore, we encourage you to call service providers for current details. Finally, the directory lists only providers that offer HIV C&T services to the general public and agree to be listed. Other HIV C&T providers, particularly those with services restricted to inpatients and/or staff, may not be included in the directory.

This is the September 2007 Update of the current edition. The NYSDOH AIDS Institute will continue to release updates of this directory. To update service information, please use the correction form provided. Additional copies of the directory may be obtained by using the order form on the last page of the directory. Suggestions for improvements to the directory are welcome.

# Anonymous HIV Counseling and Testing

AIDS Institute, New York State Department of Health

For HIV information, referrals or information on how to obtain a **FREE HIV** test without having to give the client's name and without waiting for an appointment, call the regional program closest to the county where the client lives:

Region	Toll Free #
Albany	1-800-962-5065
Buffalo	1-800-962-5064
Lower Hudson Valley	1-800-828-0064
Rochester	1-800-962-5063
Long Island (Nassau/Suffolk)	1-800-462-6786
Syracuse	1-800-562-9423
NYS DOH AIDS Hotlines	
English	1-800-541-AIDS
Spanish	1-800-233-7432
NYC DOHMH AIDS Hotlines	
For NYC callers	1-800-TALK-HIV
For callers outside NYC	1-800-698-0411

**Anonymous HIV testing** means that no name is attached to the test or test result.. If an additional test is needed to confirm you result, a code number will be used when sending the specimen to the laboratory.

**Test results** are provided during the testing session. Persons that have a test sent to the laboratory to confirm HIV infection need a second visit to receive their result in person. Persons who have a positive test result have the **option** of attaching their name to their anonymous test result so they can obtain care and services more quickly.

**Testing methods** available from the Anonymous HIV Counseling and Testing program include rapid testing, oral fluid testing and standard blood testing.

**Bilingual services** are available in English and Spanish.

**Special testing initiatives** are conducted in partnership with others in the community. Organizations that would like to host an educational program or a testing initiative at their site should contact the Regional

Coordinator for the HIV Counseling and Testing Program in the area of interest at the toll free number listed above.

**Partner Assistance Program (PNAP) and Contact Notification Assistance Program (CNAP)** help individuals with HIV or AIDS inform their partners or contacts that they may have been exposed to HIV<sup>1</sup>. An HIV test is recommended for notified partners. PNAP or CNAP services are free of charge and completely confidential. Please call the following numbers for service details:

Area	Telephone #
Buffalo	(716) 858-7853
Western New York Southern Tier	(716) 661-8111
Rochester	(800) 757-5803
Syracuse	(315) 477-8116
Onondaga County	(315) 435-3236
Oneida/Herkimer	(315) 477-8116
Central New York Southern Tier	(315) 477-8116
Central New York Northern Tier	(315) 477-8116
Albany/Schenectady	(518) 402-7411
Dutchess	(845) 486-3558
Orange	(845) 568-5333
Westchester	(914) 813-5115
Nassau	(516) 571-0216
Suffolk	(631) 853-2255
Rockland	(845) 364-3771
Ulster, Sullivan, Putnam Counties	(914) 654-7158
New York City (CNAP)	(212) 693-1419

Callers seeking services should be advised that these telephone numbers are for health department offices and clinics that may be answered by support staff. Callers should be prepared to leave a message using first names/nicknames only.

<sup>1</sup> PNAP is offered by New York State Department of Health; CNAP is offered by New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.