

Strategic Initiative for HIV/AIDS Care and Prevention
Testing Committee Meeting
March 2nd, 2009

1. How can we increase routine testing in the greater Sacramento region?

- Communication/Introduction of the legislation of routine testing to Medical Groups/Providers (We would be the ones that communicate it to them.)
- Have the ability to schedule HIV/STI testing online or via automated phone.
- Look at the Tobacco Model and their efforts.
- Have it required when starting a new job or receiving a particular service/benefit.
- Incentives.
- Ability to waive the co-pay if they test for HIV during a routine doctors visit.
- Educating providers who do testing to provide proper education that includes prevention counseling/referrals (when a positive result is given)
- Look at the epidemic and where testing is being done or where HIV+ results are found.
- Find out if clinics are testing properly.
- Ask doctors what they need in order to provide information and provide HIV testing.
- HIV test as part of routine physical.
- Find a way to protect people with their result before reported to their insurance.
- Advertising on a medical group/providers website about their testing – make it more visible.

2. How can we increase testing among at risk populations effectively and efficiently?

- Develop an easier way to provide testing without all the 'red tape' involved with training. Make it more streamlined.
- Meeting them where they are at.
- Work with people being released from prison.
- Use public venues (i.e. churches).
- Evaluate existing programs.
- Collaborations.
- Policy Changes (overall Initiative goal)
- Allow County to be able to provide HIV training.

- Develop a “Testing Collaborative” that meets on a frequent basis.
- Implement 2-tiered testing.

3. How can we get testing in emergency rooms, community clinics and by all providers when an STD is diagnosed (or tested for)?

- Make HIV as part of STI testing/screening.
- Educating providers that they can bill for HIV testing.
- Educating about the different STI’s (including HIV) and the testing periods. Making sure people come back for additional testing, if needed. (i.e. HIV, syphilis)
- Window period poster created and distributed.
- Awareness of assistance with paying for testing.
- HIV/STI focused literature available in waiting rooms (instead of Popular Science, etc.)
- Evaluate existing programs.
- CME courses that also include discussion on best practices.
- Pros/Cons on providing testing and not providing testing.
- Developing a script that finds out if the person is in need of HIV/STI testing.
- Continuity of care between providers (testing at Place A first and follow up testing at Place B)
- Community clinics need to provide HIV testing when doing STI testing
- Not enough \$ to do routine HIV testing.
- Find out what happens in emergency rooms when a referral is needed and what the criteria is for STI testing. (What algorithm do they use?)
- Find out what “Urgent Care” does when it comes to HIV/STI testing.
- Which providers do we need to be in contact with.

4. How can we best convey the need to test in specific communities?

- Use social marketing process to develop the campaign (use people from those demographics/communities)
- Use cultural competency and making sure translation of materials is done.
- Find out from Sacramento County and Office of AIDS – what the top demographics are for those testing for HIV and STI’s.