



Rapid HIV Testing

How Can You Prevent HIV Transmission?

What is an HIV Test?



An HIV test checks if a person has the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in their blood. HIV is the virus that causes acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS).

HIV testing is important because about 40% of people newly diagnosed with HIV get HIV from people who don't know their HIV status. Knowing your HIV status can help keep you and others safe. And, starting treatment early and adhering to treatment can help you live a long and healthy life and prevent passing HIV through sex to others.

What kind of test is it?

The easiest test is a fingerstick test, which gives results in just a few minutes. It's always important to do confirmatory lab tests afterwards if the fingerstick test comes out reactive (aka positive).

IT'S QUICK AND AS SIMPLE AS A FINGERSTICK!

You can find organizations that provide HIV testing with the QR code below. There are also self-testing kits available that allow you to get results at home and on your time.

Talk to your provider to find out what test is best for you.



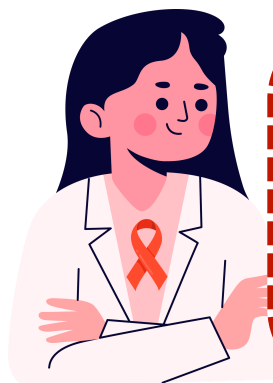
Have questions? Need HIV services?

Scan the QR code to locate services or contact
syndemic.coordination@tn.gov

Who should get tested?

Everyone between 13-64 years old should get tested for HIV at least once in their lifetime, especially those who are pregnant. Those with ongoing potential exposures may benefit from more frequent testing:

- Men who have sex with men
- People having sex with someone living with HIV who is not virally suppressed
- People sharing injection drug equipment
- People 64+ years old
- And others → **Talk to your provider about your vulnerability**



Consider getting regularly tested for other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) like chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis. **Having an STI can make you more vulnerable to HIV.**

Note: HIV tests cannot detect the virus immediately after exposure. Rapid tests can show results as early as 18 days after exposure to HIV. If you think you've been exposed to HIV in the past 72 hours, talk to your provider about getting PEP right away.



Combining Strategies

There are so many strategies to prevent HIV - talk to your provider and see what works best for you!

Combining strategies makes them more effective. Whatever strategies you choose, be sure you use them correctly and consistently.