

Confirming a Preliminary Positive Rapid Test with a Second Rapid Test Counseling Messages and Reporting Procedures

Counseling Messages

Review testing methodology with patient prior to obtaining a signed consent form.

Inform the patient that a rapid HIV test(s) will be performed.

Provide the following information as needed.

Non-Reactive Rapid Test

If the test is non-reactive it means you have tested negative for HIV. However, since it takes about 1-3 months for the virus to be detected by a test, we will need to talk about the last time you put yourself at risk. If it was in the last 3 months, the test may not be accurate and we will discuss retesting. NOT putting yourself at risk again and retesting, will allow us to give you an accurate finding of whether or not you are infected.

1st Rapid Test – Reactive

If the test is reactive it means you have a Preliminary Positive test result and it is very likely you are infected with HIV. We will perform a second rapid test or make arrangements for a second test using a different kind of test to see if we get the same result.

2nd Rapid Test – Reactive

If both tests are reactive it means you should assume that you are infected with HIV. You are not required to have any further testing at this moment.

Medical Care/Support Services: We will discuss appropriate services and I will make an appointment for you with a medical care provider and provide you with referrals for other services you may need. The medical care provider will determine if further testing is indicated.

Partner Notification: It is important to take all necessary precautions to protect your current and future partners. We need to discuss notifying your past and present partners to let them know they have been exposed to HIV. We will offer them testing services so they can learn their own HIV status. (Elicit partner contact information and refer to NAP).

2nd Rapid Test – Non-Reactive

- If the first test is Antibody reactive and if the second test is antibody non-reactive it means we cannot provide you with a conclusive result. We will draw blood today and send it to our lab for confirmatory testing. You will need to return to the clinic in about 3 days to get the result of this test. (Counselors should follow current discordant procedures and must contact the discordant Hotline asap.)

- If the first test is both Antigen and Antibody reactive, we will draw blood for additional confirmatory testing, and make an appointment for you with a medical provider.

2nd Rapid Test – Non-Reactive

If the first positive **result is only an** Antigen (Ag) reactive **it means we cannot provide you with a conclusive result immediately.** Currently there are no Rapid tests available to confirm an Antigen positive result. , and the patient may be in the window phase of HIV infection. The medical provider will need to evaluate the patient. Call the NJ Rapid HIV Support Clinician at 732-236-7013 to report this result and report the case to the HIV Surveillance Program. **A reactive antigen test could mean that you are in the window phase of an HIV infection, before your body has made detectable antibodies. We will make an appointment for you with a medical care provider and provide you with referrals for other services you may need. The medical care provider will determine if further testing is indicated. We will also draw blood today and send it to our lab for confirmatory testing. (Counselors should follow current discordant procedures and must contact the discordant Hotline asap.)**