

## Social Work Procedures for HIV Positive Test Results in the ED

### POSTTEST COUNSELING:

- Consult with the MD and **both** of you should make the patient aware of the result. The MD should remain in the room to answer any medical questions for the patient.
- After the patient is finished talking with the MD, the social worker should provide posttest crisis counseling.
- While the patient is still in the ED, coordinate with medical staff to complete the “Positive Packet,” which includes blood draws and various consent forms.
- When the patient is ready, referral information should be discussed. Inform patients that they will be contacted by staff from CDPHE, LTC, and (depending on the patient’s age) CHIP.
- **Confirm patient’s contact information.** It’s also a good idea to ask for alternative phone numbers, emails, or other ways to contact the patient.
- Assist with discharge planning. Representatives from various community and state agencies will meet with the patient as soon as possible. During regular business hours, they will attempt to meet with the patient on the same day, otherwise, the meeting will likely occur the next business day.

**If the patient has a phone and/or permanent address,** confirm this information with the patient and inform him or her that these individuals will be in contact either that day, or the next business day.

**For patients who are homeless,** make arrangements for temporary housing. If the patient is admitted to the hospital, staff will follow-up with him or her during hospitalization. If the patient is not admitted, and it is less than 24 hours until the next business day, ask the MD to keep the patient in the ED observation unit until he or she can be seen. Otherwise, the patient should be provided a four-day hotel voucher to guarantee enough time for staff to connect with the patient.

- Complete patient referral process to various agencies and DHMC staff. Instructions are on pages 4 and 5 of this document.

PLEASE PAGE, EMAIL, OR PHONE JASON HAUKOOS WITH QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS  
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home: (303) 973-1370 • (303) 803-2790

## **AGENCIES INVOLVED WITH THE REFERRAL PROCESS:**

### **DENVER HEALTH**

**Denver Public Health** is the umbrella organization that houses the various STD and HIV programs.

**STD Clinic** provides testing for all sexually transmitted diseases. Treatment is also provided for all STDs, except for HIV/AIDS. Individuals testing positive for HIV/AIDS are referred to LTC.

**Linkage to Care (LTC)** provides services to patients newly diagnosed with HIV/AIDS. LTC staff work with patients from the time of diagnosis until patients are successfully linked into care. Along with assisting patients in accessing appropriate medical care, LTC staff also provides referral services to housing programs, psychiatric services, and financial screening/insurance programs.

**HIV Primary Care Clinic** is a primary care clinic for individuals diagnosed with HIV infection. Patients infected with HIV can access all of their medical care needs through this clinic or the ID Clinic. Services include a staff of primary care physicians and specialty clinics, such as neurology, dental, and dermatology. Social work, psychiatric care, and case management services are also available. In general, patients with HIV who have not progressed to AIDS will be referred and managed in this clinic.

**Infectious Diseases (ID) Clinic** is also a primary care clinic for individuals diagnosed with HIV/AIDS. Patients infected with HIV/AIDS can access all of their medical care through the ID Clinic. Services include a staff of primary care physicians and specialty clinics, such as neurology, dental, and dermatology. Social work, psychiatric care, and case management services are also available. In general, patients with HIV who have progressed to AIDS will be referred and managed in this clinic.

### **THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL**

**Children's Hospital Immunodeficiency Program (CHIP)** offers care to young people ages 13 to 24 years old who test positive for HIV/AIDS and to women who are pregnant regardless of age. Services include primary medical care, HIV testing, counseling, peer education, risk-reduction assistance and support groups.

### **COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT (CDPHE)**

**Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS)** interview patients newly diagnosed with HIV/AIDS to determine the patient's sexual history, with the goal of locating current and previous partners, informing them that a partner had tested positive for HIV infection, and providing testing to those individuals. The process can be done confidentially and DIS works with patients to accomplish this in a supportive and helpful manner.

## AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION:

- Linkage to Care, Denver Public Health (LTC)

Marshall Gourley	<a href="mailto:marshall.gourley@dhha.org">marshall.gourley@dhha.org</a>	303 436 7491 (office)
Health Program Administrator		303 241 0913 (cell)
Mike Fuhriman	<a href="mailto:michael.fuhriman@dhha.org">michael.fuhriman@dhha.org</a>	303 436 7104 (office)
Social Caseworker		303 208 0472 (pager)
Roberto Esquivel	<a href="mailto:roberto.equivel@dhha.org">roberto.equivel@dhha.org</a>	303 436 7013 (office)
HIV Testing and Counselor Outreach Coordinator		303 514 4022 (cell)
- Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)

Janell Bezdek	<a href="mailto:janell.bezdek@state.co.us">janell.bezdek@state.co.us</a>	303 692 2664 (office)
Lead Intervention Specialist		303 891 6215 (pager)
- Children's Hospital Immunodeficiency Program (CHIP), The Children's Hospital

Mindy Paddock	<a href="mailto:paddock.malinda@tchden.org">paddock.malinda@tchden.org</a>	303 208 3146 (pager)
Youth Social Worker		303 869 3294 (voicemail)
- Denver Emergency Department Rapid HIV Testing Study Group and the ED HIV Opt-Out Study

Jason Haukoos	<a href="mailto:jason.haukoos@dhha.org">jason.haukoos@dhha.org</a>	303 436 7141 (office)
Director and Principal Investigator		303 208 3197 (pager)
Emily Hopkins	<a href="mailto:emily.hopkins@dhha.org">emily.hopkins@dhha.org</a>	303 436 6731 (office)
Project Coordinator		303 206 4610 (pager)
- Infectious Diseases (ID) Clinic

Rolf Stavig	<a href="mailto:rolf.stavig@dhha.org">rolf.stavig@dhha.org</a>	303 436 4022 (office)
Social Worker		
Karen Valentine	<a href="mailto:karen.valentine@dhha.org">karen.valentine@dhha.org</a>	303 436 3112 (office)
Social Worker		

The ID Clinic social worker will be responsible for assisting with follow-up care, so while they will not be contacting the patient immediately, it is important that they know about newly diagnosed patients.

## PROCEDURES DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS:

1. Complete the "Positive Packet."
2. Complete the "New Patient Referral Form," which can be found on the CSW computer by entering the C: drive. When you open the Microsoft Word document "New Patient Referral," you will be asked for a password (XXXXXX). Complete the form and save it to your folder on the H: drive.
  - The CD4 specimen can only be sent to the hospital lab during specific hours. Please indicate on the "New Patient Referral Form" whether or not the CD4 was sent from the ED.
3. The completed form should be emailed (as an attachment) to the following individuals:
  - Marshall Gourley and Mike Fuhriman, Linkage to Care
  - Janell Bezdek, CDPHE
  - *If the patient is 22 or younger or is pregnant*, Mindy Paddock, CHIP
  - Jason Haukoos and Emily Hopkins, HIV Opt-Out Project
4. Refer to the Linkage to Care on-call schedule posted in the ED CSW office above the printer and call the appropriate person.
  - *If the patient is 22 or younger or is pregnant*, also page/call Mindy Paddock, CHIP
5. Page/call Janell Bezdek, CDPHE. She will dispatch a state Disease Intervention Specialist to make arrangements to interview the patient. Please let Janell know that you have contacted Linkage to Care staff and who you spoke with.
6. Call/email Karen Valentine and Rolf Stavig, ID Clinic, to inform them that there was a patient that tested positive. Please let them know the other individuals you have contacted.
7. Enter the data into the CDPHE database. Follow the instructions provided on the document called "Computer Entry of Rapid HIV Testing Forms." The link on the CSW computer is: <https://www.sec.dphs.state.co.us>.

## PROCEDURES FOR EVENING AND WEEKEND HOURS:

1. Open the "Positive Packet."
2. Complete the "New Patient Referral Form," which can be found on the CSW computer by entering the C: drive. When you open the Microsoft Word document "New Patient Referral," you will be asked for a password (XXXXXX). Complete the form, and save it to your folder on the H: drive.
  - The CD4 specimen can only be sent to the hospital lab during specific hours. Please indicate on the "New Patient Referral Form" whether or not the CD4 was sent from the ED.
3. The completed form should be emailed (as an attachment) to the following individuals:
  - Marshall Gourley and Mike Fuhriman, Linkage to Care
  - Janell Bezdek, CDPHE
  - *If the patient is 22 or younger or is pregnant*, Mindy Paddock, CHIP
  - Jason Haukoos and Emily Hopkins, HIV Opt-Out Project
4. Leave **voicemail** messages for the following people, including patient's basic demographics and contact information:
  - Linkage to Care, Marshall Gourley and Mike Fuhriman
  - Janell Bezdek, CDPHE
  - *If the patient is 22 or younger or is pregnant*, Mindy Paddock, CHIP
  - Call or email Karen Valentine and Rolf Stavig, ID Clinic
5. Enter the data into the CDPHE database. Follow the instructions provided on the document called "Computer Entry of Rapid HIV Testing Forms." The link on the CSW computer is: <https://www.sec.dphs.state.co.us>.