

To get tested:

Ask a doctor for an HIV test Laboratory Form, then take to a Laboratory Location

1. northernhealth.ca/YourHealth/HospitalServices/LaboratoryServices/ContactUs.aspx

2. locations.lifelabs.com
- Dawson Creek, Prince George, Quesnel, Terrace

“Find a Clinic” to Get Tested for HIV in BC

HIV101.ca

- Resources, testing locations

smartsexresource.com

- Enter your community or postal code to find a clinic near you
- Sign up for text or email reminders for testing and vaccinations
- “Ask Us” Online BCCDC Nurse

STOP HIV/AIDS

Expand HIV testing, treatment and support services in British Columbia. For more information, please visit www.stophivaids.ca and www.HIV101.ca

Resources:

General Health Information - phone 8-1-1

www.healthlinkbc.ca

- HIV Infection Information
- HIV Testing Information

Nurse - Northern Health Regional Communicable Diseases Line
1-855-565-2990

HIV Educator
CATIE 1-800-263-1638

Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network
www.aidslaw.ca

eHealth Disclosure Directives
1-800-663-7100

(tool that gives you the right to choose who can access information within your electronic health record)

Advocacy, education, support
Positive Living North
1-888-438-2437
www.positivelivingnorth.ca

Positive Living BC
1- 800-994-2437
www.positivelivingbc.org

HIV Treatment and Support Services
careregistry.ca

HIV/HCV Specialized Support Team
1-888-645-6495



northern health
the northern way of caring

HIV101.ca



Are you positive you're not positive?

At least 25% of people who are HIV+ do not know — and they are estimated to be responsible for 75% of new infections in other people.



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REQUEST
THE TEST

What is HIV?

- The Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) damages the cells of the body's immune system.
- Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is an advanced stage of HIV infection. This occurs when the body has been so weakened by HIV that it becomes weak, tired and unable to fight most infections and some cancers.



You're never too young to learn about HIV—protect yourself and request the test

Window period:

- The window period is the period of time between the HIV virus entering your body (infection) and the time the virus antibodies can be identified in your blood
- During this time you can still spread HIV, which is why it is so important to have safe sex and use harm reduction supplies for all all high risk activities.



HIV101.ca

You may be at risk if you do any of the following:

- Unprotected sex (rectal, vaginal, oral, sharing sex toys);
- Sharing needles and other drug equipment;
- Using unsterilized tattooing and body-piercing equipment;
- Using razors or toothbrushes contaminated by HIV

Another reason to test:

- Planning pregnancy, you already are pregnant, and prior to breastfeeding.

Options for Testing

HIV is a reportable disease. All HIV tests, treatment and follow-up care are completely private and confidential.

Traditional Blood Test *



Traditional testing involves having your blood sample taken and sent to a lab. Results take about two weeks.

Point-of-Care HIV Test *



Blood is taken from your finger and tested immediately in front of you, with HIV results received in as little as 30 seconds.

All positive results will be confirmed by doing a second traditional blood test.

*** Window periods still apply to both types of testing.**

POC testing is available in some NH communities now and will be available in others soon. Check with your health care provider, the BCCDC or hiv101.ca to see where POC testing is available at this time.

Informed and voluntary consent by the client is required prior to an HIV test being administered.

HIV care has changed for the better

There is no cure for HIV, but with early testing and treatment, an HIV+ person can lead a longer and healthier life.

How do I get my test results?

- Go back to where you were tested to receive your results – except if you were tested in an Emergency department or walk-in clinic.
- If you were tested in an Emergency Department or walk-in clinic and you have a positive result, you will be contacted by the nurse and/or your primary care physician for follow-up care and treatment.