

# On Demand HIV Testing: Patient Information



## **What You Need To Know:**

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) is a virus that attacks the immune system.

HIV infection is a chronic illness that can be treated with medication. Because it is a “reportable” infection, positive test results are sent to the medical health officer to ensure appropriate follow up and support is provided.

The test you’ll get today does not detect very early HIV infection. If you think you’ve been exposed in the last six weeks or if you’re feeling sick, please see a health care provider (e.g. a doctor) so he or she can order a different kind of test. You should also have a second test in another six weeks.

## **How Can I Get Tested?**

- With a laboratory requisition from a doctor or a nurse (in some clinics)
- At any Valley Medical Laboratories location on your request

## **How Will I Get My Results?**

### **IF YOU ARE NEGATIVE FOR HIV:**

- You will NOT be contacted by the lab and the lab will not have your results
- You can phone toll-free to 1.866.778.7736 to request your results two weeks after your lab visit

### **IF YOU ARE POSITIVE FOR HIV:**

- You will receive a phone call from an Interior Health nurse
- The nurse will provide support, education and follow-up care and will help to connect you with a doctor if you don’t have one

## **What If I Have Any Questions?**

- Call toll free: 1.866.778.7736 and ask to speak with a nurse for more information
- For more information on HIV, HIV testing and resources in the Interior Health region visit: [www.myhealthissexy.com](http://www.myhealthissexy.com)

A partnership between Valley Medical Laboratories and Interior Health STOP HIV program

