

(e) A physician or physician's designee who obtains a positive result from an HIV antibody test conducted in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section shall:

(1) Notify the individual from whom the fluid or tissue sample was obtained of the positive result;

(2) Provide the individual with a copy of the Department's publication describing available counseling services;

(3) Counsel the individual to inform all sexual and needle-sharing partners of the individual's positive HIV status;

(4) Offer to assist in notifying the individual's sexual and needle-sharing partners; and

(5) If necessary, take action appropriate to comply with § 18-337 of this subtitle.

(f) The informed consent ~~document~~ ~~FOR HIV DIAGNOSTIC TESTING~~ shall be distinct ~~and separate~~ from all other ~~consent forms~~ ~~CONSENTS~~.

(g) A patient identifying number obtained from an anonymous ~~and confidential test~~ site which is approved by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene may be evidence of a patient's informed consent in lieu of a patient's signature.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

~~(a) In consultation with HIV-infected patients, AIDS advocacy organizations, and other stakeholders, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall review and streamline the regulations relating to the pre-HIV test counseling and post-HIV test counseling requirements in health care settings. The Department shall adopt or revise the regulations that address these requirements.~~

(a) The AIDS Administration shall convene a workgroup that includes HIV infected individuals, HIV/AIDS advocacy organizations, HIV service providers, and other stakeholders to review and make recommendations regarding the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines regarding HIV/AIDS, including the guidelines relating to pre- and post-test counseling and written informed consent. The workgroup shall review and consider best practices and research and data regarding treatment for HIV/AIDS.

(b) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene workgroup shall report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before January 1, 2008, in accordance