Requirements and Instructions for Submitting Pediatric Specimens to the Wadsworth Center for Diagnostic HIV Testing

The Pediatric HIV Testing Service was implemented by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) to assist in the diagnosis of perinatal HIV transmission. This service is not intended as a screening program for HIV, but rather as a diagnostic testing service to definitively diagnose or exclude HIV infection in infants who are known to be HIV antibody positive or whose mothers are known to be positive. HIV infection can reasonably be excluded among HIV-exposed children with two or more negative nucleic acid tests (NAT) performed at greater than one month of age and one of those being performed at or greater than four months of age. An infant is diagnosed as infected at any age by two positive nucleic acid tests performed on separate specimens.

The NYSDOH recommendations for diagnosis of pediatric HIV infection in HIV-exposed infants are written, reviewed and updated on a regular basis by the New York State Committee for Care of Children and Adolescents with HIV Infection. Please consult www.hivguidelines.org for the most recent update.

Obtaining test kits:
• Test kits, which include a requisition, collection tube, mailing and shipping supplies, can be obtained through the State Order Desk and should be kept stocked in either the physicians’ office or clinic. Specimen collection and shipping kits can be ordered by calling the order desk at (518) 474-4175.

Obtaining and labeling specimens:
• The whole blood specimen should be collected in the EDTA (lavender top) tube supplied with the kit. The preferred specimen is a full tube. This volume will permit the performance of HIV nucleic acid testing as well as HIV antibody testing and any additional HIV testing that is indicated.
• The specimen tube must be labeled with the patient name and collection date. Failure to properly label the sample will result in rejection of the specimen as “unsatisfactory” and a request will be made for another specimen.
• Please consult with the Testing Service or a neonatologist on the specimen volume for premature infants.

Completing the requisition form:
• Complete the Bloodborne Viruses Laboratory Pediatric HIV Testing Requisition (DOH-3917) supplied with the specimen kit. The requisition form should be completed in full. The following information is required and failure to provide this information may delay testing and/or reporting:
  • Infant name, date of birth, birth facility, and date of collection.
  • Full name, complete address, NYS license number and phone number of the person authorized to order the test.

Shipping samples:
• Samples must be packaged and shipped according to the instructions in the diagnostic specimen mailer on the day they are drawn and mailed in the specimen mailers provided via express mail.
• Specimens collected on Fridays, weekends or holidays will be processed on the next NYS business day. Collection of specimens on a Friday preceding a Monday holiday is not recommended.

Questions concerning diagnostic testing of HIV-exposed infants can be answered by calling:
Bloodborne Viruses Laboratory: Phone (518) 474-2163

More information is available at www.wadsworth.org/divisions/infdis/hivindex.html
Bloodborne Viruses Laboratory
Pediatric HIV Testing Requisition

1. Please indicate if this is an initial or follow-up test
   - [ ] INITIAL TEST (0-48 HOURS RECOMMENDED)
   - [ ] FOLLOW-UP TEST (PLEASE INDICATE TIME FRAME):
     - [ ] 2 WEEKS
     - [ ] 4-6 WEEKS
     - [ ] 4-6 MONTHS

2. Collection Date
   - [ ] MO / [ ] DAY / [ ] YR

3. Patient Name and Information
   - PATIENT'S LAST NAME
   - PATIENT'S FIRST NAME

4. Patient Demographics
   - GENDER
     - [ ] MALE
     - [ ] FEMALE
   - DATE OF BIRTH
     - [ ] MO / [ ] DAY / [ ] YR
   - AGE
   - BIRTHWEIGHT (GMS)
   - GESTATION (WEEKS)

5. Treatment History
   - WERE ANTIRETROVIRALS GIVEN TO THE MOTHER?
     - [ ] YES
     - [ ] NO
     - [ ] UNKNOWN
   - IF ANTIRETROVIRALS WERE GIVEN TO THE MOTHER, WHEN WERE THEY GIVEN?
     - [ ] DURING PREGNANCY AND DELIVERY
     - [ ] PREGNANCY ONLY
     - [ ] DELIVERY ONLY
   - WERE ANTIRETROVIRALS GIVEN TO THE INFANT?
     - [ ] YES
     - [ ] NO
     - [ ] UNKNOWN

6. Additional Comments

7. Submitter Information (Required for transmission of laboratory report)
   - SUBMITTER NAME (Name of person authorized to order clinical test)
   - LICENSE NUMBER OF PROVIDER ORDERING TEST
   - ATTENTION TO: (If different from person ordering test)
   - TELEPHONE NUMBER
   - STREET ADDRESS
   - FAX NUMBER
   - STREET ADDRESS
   - BUILDING / ROOM NUMBER
   - CITY
   - STATE
   - ZIP

NYS Accession Number: Record I.D. Number:

FOR LAB USE ONLY:

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Wadsworth Center
David Axelrod Institute
120 New Scotland Avenue
Albany, NY 12208

DOH-3917 (3/12)