Overview

The accessibility of pharmacies for HIV testing presents a unique opportunity for pharmacists to contribute to the identification of undiagnosed HIV. It is estimated that 70% of rural consumers live within 15 miles of a pharmacy, and 90% of urban consumers live within 2 miles of a pharmacy. A Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)-funded feasibility study offering rapid, point-of-care testing in community pharmacies and retail clinics stated: “pharmacies and retail clinics represent a vast, largely untapped potential for the delivery of HIV testing in settings that are more accessible and, for some people, less stigmatizing than traditional testing.”

Based on these findings, CDC developed the HIV Testing in Retail Pharmacies training to provide pharmacists and pharmacy staff with the skills necessary to conduct a complete HIV testing session using one rapid test technology with control solutions. This training will teach participants CDC’s Six-Step HIV Testing Protocol and will review considerations for implementing HIV testing in pharmacy settings. It includes a 60-minute e-Learning pre-course module and 4.5 hours of classroom training.

Note: This training does not teach participants how to collect blood or oral samples.

Training Objectives

- List populations disproportionately affected by HIV.
- Summarize the importance of post- and pre-exposure prophylaxis as HIV prevention options.
- Describe CDC’s HIV testing recommendations for adults and adolescents.
- Apply the six steps of an HIV testing session.
- List steps to perform, read, and interpret rapid HIV test results.
- Describe implementation models and lessons learned from retail pharmacies providing rapid HIV testing.

How to Request Training

If you are a health department, clinic, or community-based organization that would like to request this training in your jurisdiction, please email interventions@dlhcorp.com with "Training Request: HIV Testing in Retail Pharmacies" in the subject line. Please explain when and where you are requesting the training, and provide your complete contact information. A DLH training manager will email you for more information.