



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
LANSING

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

JANET OLSZEWSKI
DIRECTOR

Dear Colleagues:

We are pleased to share with you the enclosed report entitled “*Routine HIV Testing in High Prevalence Health Care Settings: Assessing the Process in Four Case Studies.*” This report presents the findings of an evaluation undertaken by the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH), Division of Health, Wellness and Disease Control, HIV/AIDS Prevention and Intervention Section (HAPIS) of four grants that were awarded to support planning for, and initial implementation of routine HIV testing in health care settings operating in geographic areas of high HIV prevalence.

The report summarizes the experiences of the grant recipients and highlights the challenges and strategies associated with successful implementation of routine HIV testing in selected health care settings. The report draws from a variety of sources including service data and narrative project reports submitted by grantees as well as from interviews with the grant recipients. Several key findings of our evaluation should be highlighted:

1. HIV testing must be fully incorporated into both standards of care and standard clinic operating procedures. HIV testing cannot be approached as a “stand alone” or parallel service.
2. Engagement and participation of all staff, particularly clinicians, in the range of activities associated with testing is essential for initial implementation, as well as sustainability.
3. Patient messaging is critical. HIV testing must be recommended to all patients, rather than simply offered.
4. The model for provision of HIV testing services must be flexible in order to accommodate different facilities, settings and patient populations. There is not a single “best” model for HIV testing.
5. HIV testing must be reimbursed by third party payers in order to be sustainable.

The information presented in this report is intended to assist health care providers in better understanding some of the challenges and facilitators associated with implementing HIV testing as a standard of care. Technical assistance in implementing HIV testing is available through the Michigan Department of Community Health. Questions about this report and requests for technical assistance can be directed to Liisa Randall, Manager, Community Prevention Partnerships, Division of Health, Wellness and Disease Control at (517) 241-5924 or randalll@michigan.gov.

Sincerely,

Anna Osman
Director, Division of Health, Wellness and Disease Control

CAPITOL VIEW BUILDING • 201 TOWNSEND STREET • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48913
www.michigan.gov • (517) 373-3740

Printed by members of:

