

**HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER  
LABORATORY POLICY MANUAL  
HIV TESTING**

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**Effective Date:** August 1, 2000  
**Cross Referenced:**  
**Reviewed Date:** 04/12  
**Revised Date:** 01/12

**Policy No:** GENLAB 5.13  
**Origin:** General Lab  
**Authority:** Laboratory Director  
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**PURPOSE:** To identify patients appropriate for Rapid HIV testing.

**POLICY:** Rapid HIV testing is available for OB patients presenting for delivery and of unknown HIV status and for infants. In addition, rapid HIV testing is available for employees and patients involved in needle stick and sharp exposure incidents. Any positive results will be followed up with confirmatory testing and results communicated directly to employee health. Testing is also available for any patients if the physician specifically requests a rapid HIV test. Routinely, HIV testing is sent out to Quest. Any inquiries as to results should be referred to Medical Records.

The ordering physician will be notified directly of all positive test results. Messages will not be left with nurses or answering services. The Infection Control Nurse will be notified of any positive results.

**NOTE:** See the policy concerning HIV consent forms before HIV testing is performed on any patient. All orders must be sent in writing. Likewise, all reports will be communicated on hard copy, rather than fax or telephone

Patients having prenatal HIV testing or third trimester HIV testing need not sign a consent form.