



June 23, 2015

**Re: Role of Health Authority Partners in the BC HIV Point of Care Test Program**

The BC HIV Point-of-Care (POC) Test Program has a limited budget to purchase HIV point of care kits which are allocated to each regional health authority based on population size and HIV disease burden. Decisions on site level POC kit allocations within each regional health authority are made by Health Authority partners who have been identified to assist the BC POC Program in maintaining an equitable distribution of publically funded POC test kits. Each geographic Health Authority has clinical and operational responsibilities for the implementation of their HIV Testing Plans, including POC testing.

HIV POC kit allocations are set annually and reviewed monthly for each site within a geographic Health Authority:

- First Nations or aboriginal communities are included in the Health Authority's geographic region allotment.
- The First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) or appropriate aboriginal leaders are consulted as part of the development, implementation and assessment of the Health Authority HIV Test Plan.
- **Each Health Authority team approves the sites that will receive resources from the Provincial Program.**
- **Usage per site is reviewed each year as part of the allocation process.**
- **Part of the allocation review may include the discontinuation or reduced support of existing sites.**
- Additional usage or usage by new sites need to be approved by the Health Authority teams.
- **Sharing of an existing site's resources with other non-site testers need to be approved, in advance, by the Health Authority team, to ensure accountability and the quality of the results received by clients.**

The Provincial Program regularly updates the Health Authority team about regional POCT kit usage for approved sites within the Health Authority, forwards requests for new sites, and provides indicators of increased usage or queries about site performance. The Health Authority team receives a copy of the Proficiency Test results for all sites within their Health Authority, and participates in the investigation of unacceptable Proficiency Test results.

The intent of this new partnership is to ensure shared accountability for POC testing between the Provincial Program, the Health Authority (including FNHA) teams and the testing site. A list of current members for each geographic Health Authority is included for your reference.

***By creating this joint accountability partnership, it is hoped that there will be ongoing discussions on how best to fulfill the mandate of the STOP (Hope to Health) program and ensure appropriate and ready access to HIV testing to meet the clinical needs of all communities in BC.***

Thank you for your participation and support of the BC HIV Point of Care Test Program.

Dr Mel Krajden  
Medical Director BC Point of Care HIV Test Program

Coleen McAloney  
Program Lead, BC HIV Point of Care Test Program



As of June 23, 2015, the Health Authority partners include:

First Nations Health Authority	Denise Thomas in addition to partner(s) within the geographic Health Authority	<a href="mailto:denise.thomas@fnha.ca">denise.thomas@fnha.ca</a>
Aboriginal Community Sites	See partner(s) for geographic Health Authority	
Fraser Health	Heather Winnichuk Tanya Tang Shannon Krell	<a href="mailto:Heather.Winnichuk@fraserhealth.ca">Heather.Winnichuk@fraserhealth.ca</a> <a href="mailto:Tanya.Tang@fraserhealth.ca">Tanya.Tang@fraserhealth.ca</a> <a href="mailto:Shannon.Krell@fraserhealth.ca">Shannon.Krell@fraserhealth.ca</a>
Interior Health	Jeannie Fraser Maja Karlsson	<a href="mailto:Jeanie.Fraser@interiorhealth.ca">Jeanie.Fraser@interiorhealth.ca</a> <a href="mailto:Maja.Karlsson@interiorhealth.ca">Maja.Karlsson@interiorhealth.ca</a>
Northern Health	Dr. Raina Fumerton Leslie Cerny Sam Milligan Linda Keefe	<a href="mailto:raina.fumerton@northernhealth.ca">raina.fumerton@northernhealth.ca</a> <a href="mailto:Lesley.Cerny@northernhealth.ca">Lesley.Cerny@northernhealth.ca</a> <a href="mailto:Robert.Milligan@northernhealth.ca">Robert.Milligan@northernhealth.ca</a> <a href="mailto:linda.keefe@northernhealth.ca">linda.keefe@northernhealth.ca</a>
VCH	Nancy Chow Logan Chinski	<a href="mailto:HIVevaluation@vch.ca">HIVevaluation@vch.ca</a>
PHSA	Meaghan Thumath	<a href="mailto:Meaghan.Thumath@bccdc.ca">Meaghan.Thumath@bccdc.ca</a>
VIHA	Kendra Jones Sophie Banner-Martin	<a href="mailto:kendra.jones@viha.ca">kendra.jones@viha.ca</a> <a href="mailto:Sophie.Bannarmartin@viha.ca">Sophie.Bannarmartin@viha.ca</a>