



BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority

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Date: May 19, 2026

Administrative Circular: 2026:09

ATTN:

Medical Health Officers and Branch Offices

Public Health Nursing Administrators and Assistant Administrators

Holders of Communicable Disease Control Manuals

**Re: Update to Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 5: Sexually Transmitted Infections:
Section 2: HIV/AIDS**

CD Manual - Guidelines for Testing, Follow-Up and Prevention of HIV

On April 22, 2026, at the sitting of the Legislature the non-nominal HIV reporting option d in section 3(4)(a) of the *Reporting Information Affecting Public Health Regulation* (B.C. Reg. 167/2018) (“RIAPHR” or “the Regulation”) under the *Public Health Act* was repealed. In response, the CD Manual *Guidelines for Testing, Follow-Up and Prevention of HIV* have been updated to align with this amendment.

While non-nominal reporting has been repealed, individuals continue to have access to non-nominal testing options:

- The clinic finder on SmartSexResource.com has a search filter for locations offering the service ‘Use a fake name for testing’
- GetCheckedOnline allows individuals to get tested for sexually transmitted and bloodborne infections through a pseudonym / fake name without seeing a health care provider.
- Self-testing at home through privately purchased kits.

In addition, the opportunity was taken to update the *Guidelines for Testing, Follow-Up and Prevention of HIV* to reflect current terminology, and clinical practice including content related to HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), Undetectable = Untransmittable (U=U), Treatment as Prevention (TaSP) and perinatal transmission.

Key updates to the guidelines are highlighted below:

- Addition of Indigenous Peoples Rights Acknowledgement
 - New section at the beginning of the Guidelines to align with current practice for CD Policy Guidelines
- Language and definitions have been updated throughout the document to reflect current evidence and use of person first language

- Revisions were made to improve readability, reduce redundant information and logical flow of content
- Update to Epidemiology section to reflect current trends and link to up to date reports
- Inclusion of HIV PrEP, PEP, TaSP, and U=U
- Update of definitions:
 - Non-nominal is defined as pseudonym or fake name testing processes, which still are in place; revision of the outdated term 'HIV designated nurse'; and addition of U=U
- Removal of annual testing recommendation for 'Aboriginal People'
 - This was removed as previous guidance conflated Indigeneity with HIV risk rather than reflecting the social and structural factors that contribute to a higher burden of HIV among Indigenous communities
- Removal of the Indeterminate results section
 - BC PHL no longer reports indeterminate results in isolation, information is included in [Acute HIV](#) and [False Positive](#) resource documents
- Update to the Duty to Report section, this was previously titled the duty to warn section to align with other documents
- Update to testing recommendations following high-risk exposure to align with the [Canadian Guidelines on HIV Pre- and Post-Exposure Prophylaxis: 2025 Update](#)
 - HIV testing following high-risk exposure be recommended at baseline, 4–6 weeks, and 12 weeks.

**Please remove all pages of the guidelines dated August 2016
and print all pages of the guideline dated May 2026.**

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact Julie Holt, Senior Practice Leader, STBBI at Julie.Holt@bccdc.ca.

Sincerely,



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FRCPC, public health; CPHM (CMSA) (she/her)

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pc:

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