

HIV/AIDS POLICY

Reporting Requirements:

Your Name will be reported to the Health Department if you have confirmed positive HIV Antibody Test Result received through confidential test, other HIV – related test results, a diagnosis of AIDS, or if you have chosen to attach your name to a Positive Test result at an anonymous site. The Department of Health will use this information to track the epidemic and to better plan prevention, health care, and other services.

Notifying Partners:

If you test HIV Positive, your Provider will talk to you about the importance and benefits of notifying your partners of their possible exposure to HIV. It is important that your partners know that they have been exposed to HIV so they can find out whether they are infected and benefit from early diagnosis and treatment. Your Provider may ask you to provide the names of your partners, and whether it is safe for you if they are notified. If you have been in an abusive relationship with one of these partners, it is important to share that information with your Provider.

For Information Regarding Services Related to Domestic Violence, call 1-800-942-6906.

® Under State Law, your provider is required to report to the Health Department the names of any of your partners (present and past sexual partners, including spouses and needle sharing partners) whom they know.

® If you have additional partners whom your Provider does not know, you may give their names to your Provider so that they can be notified.

Several options are available to assist you and your Provider in notifying partners. If you or your

® Provider does not have a plan to notify your partners, The Health Department may notify them without revealing your identity. If this notification presents a risk of harm to you, the Health Department may defer notification for a period of time sufficient to allow you to access domestic violence prevention services.

® If you do not name any partners to your Provider or if a need exists to confirm information about your partners, the Health Department may contact you to request your cooperation for this process.

Confidentiality of HIV Test Results and Related Information:

If you feel your confidentiality has been broken, or for more information about HIV confidentiality, call New York State Department of Health HIV Confidentiality Line at 1-800-962-5065. Any health or social service Provider who illegally tells anyone about your HIV information may be punished by a fine up to \$ 5,000.00 and a jail term of up to one year. The Law also protects you from HIV-related discrimination in housing, employment, health care, or, other services. For more information, call the New York State Division of Human Rights at 1-800-5236-2437.