

# Ending the Epidemic Task Force Recommendation Form

#257



**COMPLETE**

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PAGE 1

**Q1: OPTIONAL: This recommendation was submitted by (please provide your first and last name, affiliation, and email address)**

First Name	Jim
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Affiliation	ACT UP/NY
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**Q2: Title of your recommendation**

Facilitate Reimbursement for HIV Tests to Eliminate an Economic Disincentive for Testing

**Q3: Please provide a description of your proposed recommendation**

New York State's HIV Testing Law requires medical professionals to offer a voluntary HIV test to all patients (with limited exceptions) between the ages of 13 and 64. In today's world of managed care, hospital Emergency Departments and other sites of HIV testing often have to "eat" the cost of HIV tests because the sites are not reimbursed for individual tests but a full panel of tests, and the reimbursement would be the same whether an HIV test is offered or not. This is an economic disincentive to offering HIV testing to patients at these sites. New York State should help eliminate economic disincentives to testing by doing everything in its power—including its power to regulate the insurance industry—to facilitate 3rd party payer reimbursement for every HIV test.

**Q4: For which goal outlined in the Governor's plan to end the epidemic in New York State does this recommendation apply? (Select all that apply)**

Identifying persons with HIV who remain undiagnosed and linking them to health care

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Linking and retaining persons diagnosed with HIV to health care and getting them on anti-HIV therapy to maximize HIV virus suppression so they remain healthy and prevent further transmission

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Facilitating access to Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for high-risk persons to keep them HIV negative

## Ending the Epidemic Task Force Recommendation Form

**Q5: This recommendation should be considered by the following Ending the Epidemic Task Force Committee (Select all that apply)**

Prevention Committee: Develop recommendations for ensuring the effective implementation of biomedical advances in the prevention of HIV, (such as the use of Truvada as pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)); for ensuring access for those most in need to keep them negative; and for expansion of syringe exchange, expanded partner services, and streamlined HIV testing by further implementing the universal offer of HIV testing in primary care, among others. The Committee will focus on continuing innovative and comprehensive prevention and harm reduction services targeted at key high risk populations, as well as grant-funded services that engage in both secondary and primary prevention.

Care Committee: Develop recommendations to support access to care and treatment in order to maximize the rate of HIV viral suppression. The Committee will promote linkages and retention in care to achieve viral suppression and promote the highest quality of life while significantly decreasing the risks of HIV transmission. Recommendations will also ensure a person centered approach is taken and that access to culturally and linguistically appropriate prevention and health care services is available.

**Q6: Does this recommendation require a change to an existing policy or program, or the creation of a new policy or program?**

Change to existing policy

**Q7: Would implementation of this recommendation be permitted under current laws or would a statutory change be required?**

Unknown

**Q8: Is this recommendation something that could feasibly be implemented in the short-term (within the next year) or long-term (within the next three to six years)?**

Within the next year

**Q9: What are the perceived benefits of implementing this recommendation?**

Increasing the likelihood that HIV tests will be offered in Emergency Rooms and other settings

**Q10: Are there any concerns with implementing this recommendation that should be considered?**

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q11: What is the estimated cost of implementing this recommendation and how was this estimate calculated?**

*Respondent skipped this question*

## Ending the Epidemic Task Force Recommendation Form

**Q12: What is the estimated return on investment (ROI) for this recommendation and how was the ROI calculated?**

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q13: Who are the key individuals/stakeholders who would benefit from this recommendation?**

All people who are tested for HIV

**Q14: Are there suggested measures to accompany this recommendation that would assist in monitoring its impact?**

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q15: This recommendation was submitted by one of the following**

Ending the Epidemic Task Force member