



ANONYMOUS HIV TESTING SITES IN TORONTO

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Anonymous HIV Testing Sites in Toronto

Anonymous HIV Testing Sites in Toronto is one of various Community Resource Guides created by the Service Access Centre at ACT.

Other Guides are as follows:

- HIV/AIDS Care Doctors in Toronto
- HIV/AIDS Complementary Therapists
- HIV/AIDS Counsellors and Psychotherapists
- If you do not have Ontario Health Insurance (OHIP)
- Support Groups

All of these Guides are available in the Service Access area at the AIDS Committee of Toronto offices (399 Church Street, 4th floor), and on the ACT website (www.actoronto.org). For further information on these guides and their distribution, please contact:

Service Access Centre
ACT
399 Church Street, 4th floor
Toronto, Ontario M5B 2J6
416-340-2437

ACT's hours of operation are: Mondays - Thursdays 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.; Fridays 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; closed on weekends and statutory holidays.

For further information regarding HIV-related services throughout the Greater Toronto Area, you can also contact:

- AIDS and Sexual Health Info line: 416-392-2437 or 1-800-668-2437
- ASO411 (www.aso411.ca)
- Find Help Information Services (211 Toronto): 416-397-4636 or www.211.ca

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ANONYMOUS HIV TESTING SITES IN TORONTO

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ANONYMOUS HIV TESTING SITES IN TORONTO

HIV Testing: Information

This information is designed to help answer questions about the test for the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), the virus that can lead to AIDS.

Should you take the test?

For many people, HIV testing is important because they want to know their HIV status (whether they are infected or not infected with HIV). If they find out that they have HIV they can take steps to remain healthy.

To make the decision to be tested, you need a clear understanding of what the test is and what the results mean. No matter what you decide, having safer sex and safer drug use will reduce the chances for putting yourself or someone else at risk for HIV infection. You can find out more by contacting ACT - in person, on the phone or online.

About the HIV Test

You may have heard this test referred to as an "HIV test", or an "AIDS test" but in fact it is a test for HIV antibodies. Antibodies are made by the body as a result of infection with HIV.

There are two types of HIV tests available in Ontario. The "standard test" involves taking a blood sample, which is then sent to the lab to be tested for the presence of HIV antibodies. It usually takes about two weeks for the test results to come back.

"Rapid" HIV tests are also available. This involves pricking your finger and testing your blood while you wait. The entire process, including counselling, takes about 20 minutes.

Since the HIV test looks for antibodies and not the actual virus, you need to wait until antibodies are made by your body. Antibodies can take from three to 12 weeks to show up in your blood after the time of infection. So, for an accurate result, you should wait until 12 weeks after you have had a sexual or drug-using situation that put you at risk, before being tested.

This period of time (from the time you are infected with HIV to the time when the antibodies appear in your blood) is often called the window period.

Your test results

A confirmed positive test result means that you have been infected with HIV (you are HIV-positive [HIV+]) and you can pass the virus on to others if you have unprotected sex or share needles/works. It does not mean that you have AIDS or that you will develop it; it does not tell you anything else about the state of your health.

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A negative test result means that there were no HIV antibodies in your blood at the time of your test, and you were not infected with HIV (you are HIV negative [HIV-]). It does not mean that you are immune to the virus or that you cannot become infected in the future.

What you can do if you test HIV-positive

If you find out that you have HIV, there are things that you can do to maintain your physical, mental and emotional health.

A health care provider who is knowledgeable about HIV can monitor your health and help you decide when to begin taking medications that can help fight HIV. AIDS service organizations such as ACT can provide a wide range of practical, emotional and social support services, help you get more information about living with HIV, and refer you to other services.

Practicing safer sex and/or safer drug use are also important. Not only will this reduce your chances of passing HIV on to others, but this will help reduce your chances of getting other infections that can be bad for your health.

Before you test... some things to consider

Your risks for HIV infection: Based on your own sexual or drug using history, counselling before you take the test will help you to assess the risks you have taken, and inform your decision to test. Ultimately, it is your choice whether or not to get tested for HIV.

Anonymous HIV testing: Anonymous HIV testing uses a number or a code on your test - not your name. Only you will know your test result, or even that you were tested. Anonymous testing is different from HIV tests performed by your doctor, or at certain clinics, where your HIV test results will be linked to your name. To find out the location of your nearest anonymous HIV testing site, contact ACT, or call the AIDS and Sexual Health Infoline at 1-800-668-2437.

Counselling before and after the test: Before the test, you need someone to answer all your questions, and make sure you know exactly what the test means, so that you can make an informed decision about testing. After the test, whether you test HIV-positive or HIV-negative, you need someone to help you be realistic about the results, and take effective steps to remain healthy.

Are you getting an HIV test for employment or insurance reasons? No employer in Canada has the right to require HIV testing in order for you to get a job, nor can an employer demand information about your HIV status. However, insurance companies may require an HIV test in order to get coverage. If so, you might want to receive anonymous HIV testing and counselling first, and, if you find out that you are HIV-positive, withdraw your application to protect your confidentiality.

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Are you pregnant? All pregnant women in Ontario are offered HIV testing as part of their prenatal care. When pregnant women with HIV are diagnosed early, they can receive treatment for themselves which will help prevent mother-to-child HIV transmission. In the past, about 25 per cent of babies born to women with HIV were infected. With prenatal testing and treatment, fewer than two per cent of babies born to women with HIV are infected.

Finally...

It's normal to feel anxious about getting an HIV test. Having a trusted friend, partner or family member come with you when you get tested and when you get your test results may help reduce some of the anxiety.

If you're unsure about testing, perhaps you may need more information or counselling to help you deal with the issues of testing and the possibility of an HIV-positive test result.

You can contact ACT to get more information or to speak with someone. Call 416-340-2437, visit our offices at 399 Church St. (4th floor).

To find out the location of your nearest anonymous HIV testing site, call the AIDS and Sexual Health Infoline at 416-392-2437 or Toll Free at 1 800 668-2437.



ANONYMOUS HIV TESTING SITES IN TORONTO

City of Toronto Anonymous HIV Testing Sites

Toronto – Central

ANISHAWBE HEALTH

Target Community: Aboriginal communities; recreational drug users.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible, including barrier-free washrooms. Street parking

Rapid HIV testing is **NOT offered.*

225 Queen Street East
Toronto, Ontario M5A 1S4
Tel: 416-360-0486
Fax: 416-365-1083
E-mail: rmandawe@aht.ca
Website: www.aht.ca

Hours of Anonymous HIV Testing:
Monday/Wednesdays 9am-6pm
Tuesdays/Thursday/Fridays 9am-5pm

As an Aboriginal Community Health Centre we primarily serve Aboriginal service users. However, we do accept non-aboriginal patients if this location is more convenient for individuals. Please be sure to call to book an appointment, walks-in are on a “first come first serve basis” (walk-ins could wait up to an hour, depending on volume of patients.)

BAY CENTRE FOR BIRTH CONTROL

Target Community: Women

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible, including barrier-free washrooms.

Rapid HIV testing **IS offered. Services are for women **ONLY** and appointments are required.*

790 Bay Street, 8th floor
Toronto Ontario M5G 1N8
Tel: 416-351-3700
Fax: 416-351-3727

Hours of HIV Testing:
Mondays & Fridays 9am-5pm
Wednesdays & Thursdays 9am-8pm

CENTRE FRANCOPHONE DE TORONTO

AIDS Committee of Toronto
399 Church Street, 4th floor, Toronto, Ontario M5B 2J6
T 416-340-2437 F 416-340-8224 W actoronto.org
Monday to Thursday 10 am-9 pm Friday 10 am-5 pm



 @ACToronto

 facebook.com/ACToronto



ANONYMOUS HIV TESTING SITES IN TORONTO

Target Community: Primarily Francophones, but open to all.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible, including barrier-free washrooms.

* *Rapid HIV testing is NOT offered. Appointments are required.*

22 College Street (Main level)
Toronto, Ontario M5G 1K3
Tel: 416-922-2672
Fax: 416-922-6624

Hours of Anonymous HIV Testing:
Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm
Thursday 8:30am-8pm

HASSLE FREE CLINIC

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible, including barrier-free washrooms.

* *Rapid HIV testing IS offered. Appointments are required.*

66 Gerard Street East 2nd floor
Toronto, Ontario M5B 1G3
Fax: 416-922-2018
E-mail: admin@hasstlefreeclinic.org

Hours of Anonymous HIV Testing:
Tel: 416-922-0566 (**Women's Clinic**): Mon/Wed/Fri 10am - 3pm
Tues/Thurs 4pm - 8pm

Website: www.hasstlefreeclinic.org

Tel: 416-922-0603 (**Men's Clinic**): Mon/Wed 4pm - 8pm
Tues/Thurs 10am - 3pm
Friday 4pm - 7pm
Saturday 10am - 2pm

PARKDALE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible, including barrier-free washrooms; designated disabled parking spaces.

**Rapid HIV testing IS offered. Appointments are required.*

1229 Queen Street west
Toronto Ontario M6K 1L2
Tel: 416-537-2455
Fax: 416-416-537-5133/416-537-3526

Hours of Anonymous HIV Testing:
Tuesdays: 3:30pm - 5pm
Wednesday evenings: "Drop-In Harm reduction program"
Thursdays: 5:30pm-7pm
Fridays: 3:30pm-5pm

PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF TORONTO

AIDS Committee of Toronto
399 Church Street, 4th floor, Toronto, Ontario M5B 2J6
T 416-340-2437 F 416-340-8224 W actoronto.org
Monday to Thursday 10 am-9 pm Friday 10 am-5 pm



@ACToronto

facebook.com/ACToronto



ANONYMOUS HIV TESTING SITES IN TORONTO

Accessibility: Venue is not accessible.

Target Community: Youth (ages 13 - 29) only.

* *Rapid HIV testing is **NOT** offered.*

36-B Prince Arthur Avenue

Toronto Ontario M5R 1A9

Tel: 416-927-7171

Fax: 416-961-2512/416-961-9856

E-mail: ppt@ppt.on.ca

Website:

Drop-In Hours of Anonymous HIV Testing:

Monday/Tuesday 12:30pm - 7:30pm

Wednesday 3:30pm-7:30pm

Thursday 12:30pm-7:30pm

Friday 12:30pm-3:30pm

Saturday 9:30am-2pm

QUEEN WEST COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible, including barrier-free washrooms. One designate disabled parking spot.

* *Appointments are required. Call 416-703-8482 ext. 100 to book an appointment.*

168 Bathurst Street

Toronto, Ontario M5V 2R4

Tel: 416-703-8482

Fax: 416-703-6190

Website: www.ctchc.com

Hours of Anonymous HIV Testing:

Thursdays & Fridays 9:30 am -11:50 am

YOUTHLINK

Target Community: Youth (up to age of 25) who are homeless and/or living on the street.

* *Rapid HIV testing is **NOT** offered.*

7 Vanauley Street

Toronto, Ontario M5T 2V9

Tel: 416-703-3361

Fax: 416-703-3359

Hours of Anonymous HIV Testing:

Thursday 10 am – 12 noon. “Walk-ins” are on a “first come first serve” basis.

Toronto – North:



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BIRTH CONTROL VENEREAL DISEASE INFORMATION CENTRE

**Rapid HIV testing IS offered. Appointments are required.*

960 Lawrence Avenue west, 4th floor Suite 403
Toronto, Ontario M6A 3B5
Tel: 416-789-4541
Fax: 416-789-0762
Website: www.birthcontrolvd.org

Hours of Anonymous HIV Testing:
Monday 2pm - 4pm
Tuesday 4pm - 6pm
Wednesday 12pm - 4pm
Thursday 5pm - 7pm
Friday 12:30pm - 3:30pm

CENTRE FRANCOPHONE DE TORONTO (Satellite office)

Target Community: Primarily Francophones.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible, including barrier-free washrooms; designated parking

**Rapid HIV testing IS offered. Appointments are required.*

5 Fairview Mall Drive, 2nd floor Suite 280
North York, Ontario M2J 2Z1
Tel: 416-492-2672
Fax: 416-492-3157
Website: www.centrefranco.org

Hours of Anonymous HIV Testing:
Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fridays 8:30am - 4:30pm
Tuesdays 1pm - 8pm

Toronto – West:

REXDALE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible, including barrier-free washrooms; designated parking

**Rapid HIV testing IS offered*

8 Taber Road
Etobicoke, Ontario M9W 3A4
Tel: 416-744-0066
Fax: 416-744-1881
E-mail: rhc@rexdalechc.com
Website: www.rexdalechc.com

Hours of Anonymous HIV Testing:
Tuesdays 1pm-4pm, by appointment only