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Facts You Should Know

Western New York AIDS Program

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HIV
Counseling and Testing
Hotline Numbers

BUFFALO (716) 847-4520
Albany (518) 457-7152
New Rochelle (914) 632-4133
Rochester (716) 423-8081
Syracuse (315) 428-4736
Nassau (516) 535-2004
Suffolk (516) 348-2999

FOR SUPPORT SERVICE
OR INFORMATION ON AIDS

**BUFFALO AREA
(716) 847-2437**

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from the WNY community.

**Western New York
AIDS Program**
220 Delaware Avenue. / Suite 512
Buffalo, New York 14202

Facts
You
Should
Know
About

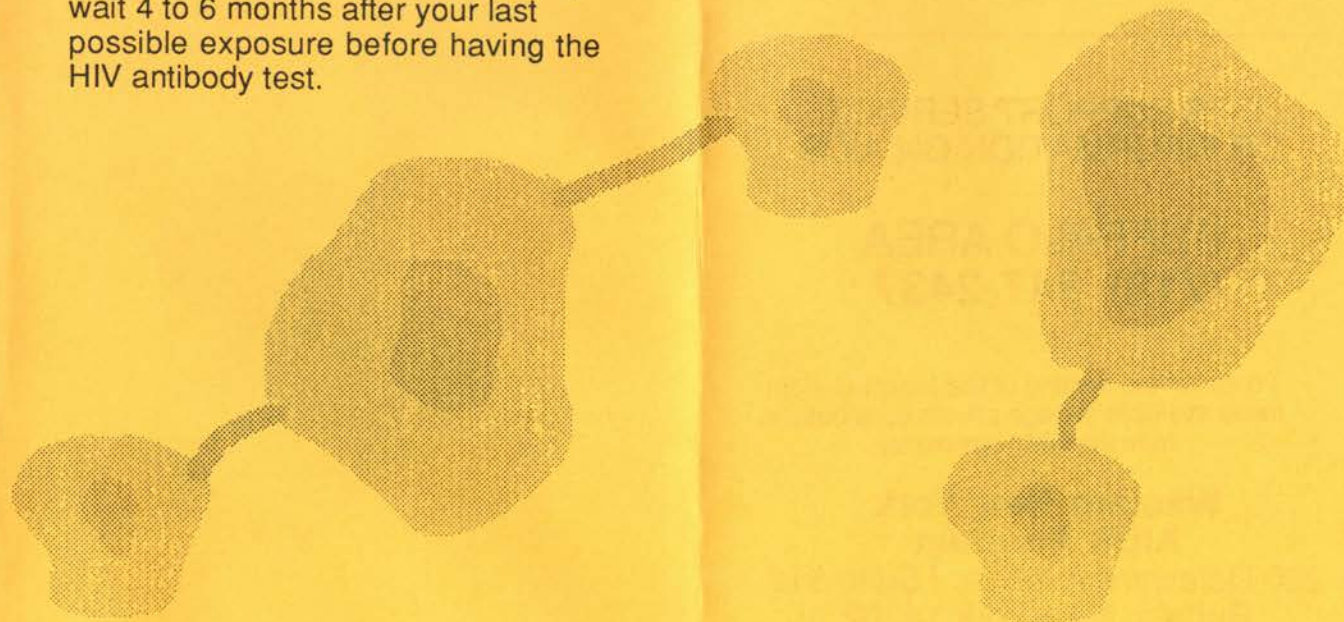
HIV

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- HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) is the virus associated with AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).
- **Anyone** who is sexually active or shares needles or other intravenous drug equipment is at risk of being exposed to and infected with HIV. Newborn babies are at risk of being born with HIV if their parents are infected.
- The HIV antibody test is **NOT** a test for AIDS. It **can** tell if you have been infected with HIV.



- A positive HIV antibody test result does not necessarily mean that you will develop AIDS. However, an infected person can infect others through unsafe sexual contact and by sharing needles or other intravenous drug equipment. Infected parents can pass the virus on to their unborn children. HIV is transmitted through blood to blood or semen to blood contact.
- A negative HIV antibody test result does not necessarily mean that you have not been infected with HIV or that you cannot develop AIDS. If you have had recent contact with HIV your body may not have developed antibodies yet. It is suggested that you wait 4 to 6 months after your last possible exposure before having the HIV antibody test.



- The New York State Department of Health HIV Alternate Site clinics provide **FREE and ANONYMOUS** counseling and HIV antibody testing. You will not have to give your name or any other identifying information. The counselor will give you a code number if you decide to be tested.
- Referrals for medical evaluation and psychosocial supports can be provided by the HIV alternate site counselors. You can call the HIV hotline in your region for counseling and information about the nearest HIV alternate site clinic.