

HIV Early Intervention Services

HIV Early Intervention Services is a program of the Georgia Department of Human Resources Division of Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities/Addictive Diseases - Office of Addictive Diseases. Imagine Hope, Inc. coordinates the HIV Early Intervention Services Program

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HIV Early Intervention Services (EIS) are provided by workers based in substance abuse treatment sites throughout the state of Georgia. HIV EIS counselors are trained to conduct HIV pre-test counseling, HIV testing, and post-test counseling. Many also lead HIV/STD educational groups with consumers and train co-workers in universal precautions.

Imagine Hope, Inc. coordinates the HIV EIS program and provides support to Georgia opioid treatment facilities that participate, including:

- Testing supplies: OraSure oral HIV test kits and, for those who qualify, rapid testing devices.
- Orientation for HIV workers
- Training and annual workshops for HIV workers
- Technical assistance by phone and email

Before Testing Can Begin

Contact Public Health - - We strongly suggest that HIV workers call their local and/or District Public Health Office and then go visit in person to introduce themselves. Public Health is the source for HIV Test Report forms, which must be submitted for every HIV test performed. But more importantly, before testing begins it is critical that HIV workers know the best procedure for referring a consumer who tests positive for HIV to medical care and follow-up.

Required Training - - HIV workers are required to attend a CDC-approved HIV prevention counseling and testing course. Each year, Imagine Hope, Inc. provides one or more of deliveries of this workshop specifically for HIV EIS counselors. To insure that you are notified as soon as these workshops are scheduled, please provide us with your email address. In the meantime, to find the next available training:

- First: contact your district Public Health office to see if the course is being offered locally.
- As a back-up, call Joe Norman, Public Health HIV Section Training Coordinator at (404) 657-3100 or e-mail him at jrnorman@dhr.state.ga.us. Joe schedules the training statewide and can tell you when he is offering the course in your area – and whether there are any seats available.

Required: 1 Form, 1 Report

For every test performed, HIV workers must submit an HIV Test Report form to HIV CTS/PCRS Program Manager Judi Duffy. Blank forms are available from your local Public Health agency; instructions on how to fill out the form are available at www.hiveis.com under Forms.

HIV EIS workers report on their activities each quarter by submitting a Field Report form. To download a copy of this form, visit www.hiveis.com and go to the Forms page.

Newsletter, Quarterly Report, Website, Email News Clipping Service

To receive copies of the newsletter, *HIV Risk Reduction* and the *Quarterly Report* on HIV EIS activities statewide, please provide your s-mail address to Winona Holloway at winonaholloway@hughes.net. For the latest on training opportunities and to receive our email news clipping service, provide us with your email address. To learn more about the HIV EIS program, visit the website, www.hiveis.com.

Please feel free to contact me,

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