

Protecting and improving the nation's health

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Date: 14th July 2021

PHE Gateway number: L2021-115

Dear colleague,

## **Re: PHE Community HIV Testing Survey**

PHE is carrying out the fifth national survey of HIV testing in community settings. We are asking all providers of HIV testing in community settings for information on the HIV tests that they carry out. We will include this information in PHE's national HIV output, which will be published towards the end of the year. This collates all nationally available data on HIV testing and uses this to assess the implementation and effectiveness of national guidelines. Information from last year's survey was included in the annual HIV 2020 report.

We recognise the additional pressures that the COVID-19 response has caused to you and your organisation and understand that this may impact on your ability to complete our annual PHE survey of HIV testing in community settings. If possible, please complete the attached spreadsheet so that we can include your organisation's work in PHE's annual HIV output for 2020. This will present community HIV testing data collated by area. Individual provider organisations' data will not be identified.

Please send your survey response to <a href="https://example.gov.uk">Hivtesting@phe.gov.uk</a> by 4th August 2021. Please let us know if there have been any changes to service provision due to COVID-19 related pressures and if you need to postpone your survey submission. Please contact us via this email address if you have any questions or comments. We will send you an email confirming your survey submission.

IMPORTANT: If your organisation has already submitted 2020 HIV testing data to GUMCAD, the National HIV Self-Sampling Service or if your organisation is a drug and alcohol service which reports to NDTMS, please do not complete this survey.

If your organisation has identified anyone who has had a reactive HIV result, please also complete the questionnaire that is embedded within the spreadsheet. This information will enable us to understand more about subsequent confirmatory diagnosis and linkage to care.

Thank you very much for contributing to this important survey. We look forward to including your data in the report to help assess the implementation of national recommendations on

community HIV testing in England and will be pleased to acknowledge your organisation's contribution.

Yours sincerely

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Dr Nicky Connor Consultant Epidemiologist HIV Testing Lead Nicky.connor@phe.gov.uk

If you have a question about submitting data to this survey, please contact Hivtesting@phe.gov.uk