

## South Shore/Hanover Obstetrics and Gynecology, Inc.

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### PATIENT CONSENT FOR HIV-1 ANTIBODY TESTING

I voluntarily consent to have by blood collected and tested for HIV-1 antibodies.

The test is being performed to determine the presence or absence of HIV-1 antibodies and is not being done for purposes of blood donation. The results of the test will be recorded in my medical record.

The following interpretive information has been explained to me:

A **NEGATIVE** result means that antibody to HIV-1 was not detected in the specimen submitted to the laboratory. This usually means that the individual has not been exposed to HIV-1. Since the course of antibody production is variable and may not yet have begun, a negative test result does not exclude the possibility of exposure to or infection with HIV-1. Negative test results may also occur in individuals with AIDS related symptoms. A negative antibody test can not be used to exclude the diagnosis.

A **POSITIVE** result means that antibody to HIV-1 is present in the specimen submitted. This usually means that the individual has been infected with HIV-1. The implications of a positive test result in an asymptomatic individual are not known. It is not possible to identify those asymptomatic persons with antibody to HIV-1 who will eventually develop AIDS. The presence of antibody to HIV-1 is not diagnostic of AIDS or AIDS Related Complex. Since HIV-1 can exist in the presence of specific antibody, all individuals with positive antibody test results must be considered potentially infectious. Individuals with antibody to HIV-1 should be permanently deferred from donating blood for transfusion.

A **POSTIVE** result with a **NEGATIVE** confirmatory test means that the specimen has been tested for antibody to HIV-1 and was found to be positive by a sensitive EIA screening procedure. A specific confirmatory test was unable to confirm this result. Therefore, the specificity of the screening test is in question, and it is not possible to determine whether the individual has antibody to HIV-1 at this time. It is highly recommended that another specimen be submitted from the individual after 6-8 weeks for retesting. Until the results of the testing are known, it is suggested that this individual exercise caution.

I understand the following testing sequence:

1. All specimens will be screened by a federally licensed EIA procedure for the detection of antibodies to HIV-1.
2. Specimens found to be negative will be reported as negative for antibody to HIV-1.
3. Specimens found to be positive will be repeated in the EIA procedure.
4. Specimens which repeat positive by EIA will be tested by a confirmatory procedure (Western Blot).
5. Results of the EIA and confirmatory procedures will be reported.

Patients should be aware that the results will be on record, and will be transferred to hospital as part of their record.

For additional information or counseling, call:

AIDS ACTION LINE  
(617) 536-7733  
3:00 – 9:00 pm

AIDS HOTLINE  
(617) 424-5916  
8:30 am – 4:30 pm

RI PROJECT AIDS HOTLINE  
1 (800) 726-3010  
8:30 am – 5:00 pm

I understand the above information \_\_\_\_\_

Name

Date