The Review

NBIMC News, Updates, & Announcements **April 2024**

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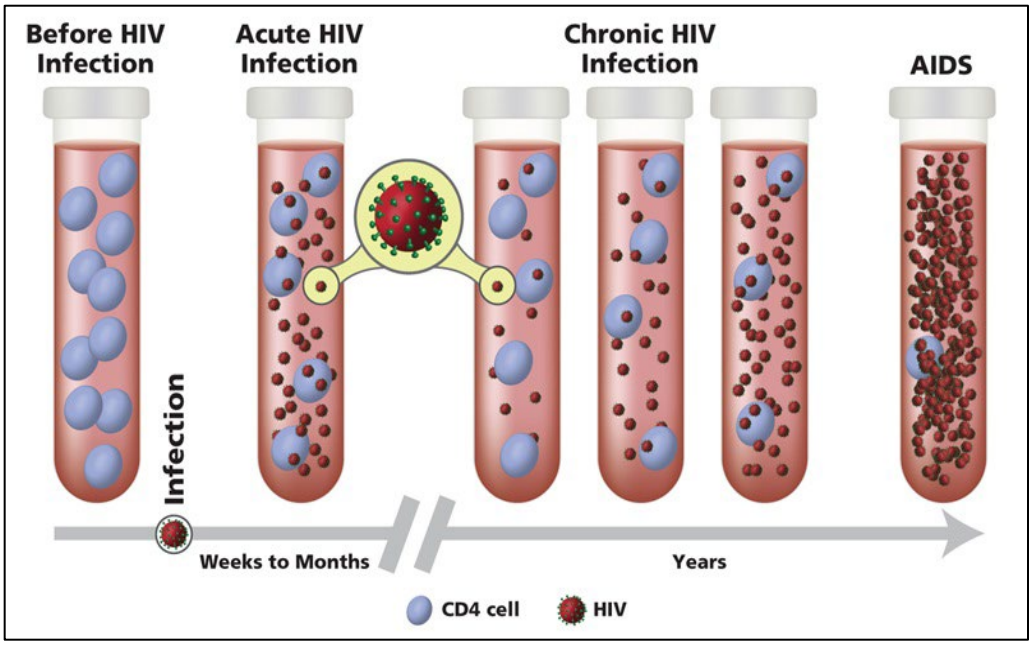

Summary of HIV Progression

Written By: Hodan Oglay, MS

The human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) weakens the immune system by destroying important cells that fight disease and infection. There is currently no effective cure for HIV, but with proper medical care, HIV can be controlled. Some populations in the United States are more likely to get HIV than others because of many factors, including their sex partners and risk behaviors. Periodic HIV testing aids in the early detection of infection and allows for timely, opportune treatment. HIV infections can progress overtime and are categorized into one of three stages based on various factors such as risk of transmission and viral loads. Basic information on the three stages of HIV infection is provided below.

3 Stages of HIV Infection:

1) Acute HIV infection – the early stage, develops 2-4 weeks after infection, characterized by high levels of HIV and multiplies rapidly. An infected individual may develop symptoms to include influenza-like illness. The risk of transmission is highest at this stage.

2) Chronic HIV Infection – Clinical HIV infection; HIV multiplies at low levels, may be asymptomatic, and risk of transmission depends on treatment and viral loads.

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3) Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) – Severe stage of infection, susceptible to opportunistic infections, high viral load, and easily transmit to others.

Awareness

AFTIS: Military Shipping Label Request Site

The Center for Disease Detection (CDD) has developed a proprietary software system (AFTIS) which is utilized for all CDD testing services. Through AFTIS, client service representatives have access to patient demographic information, supply ordering information, test results, and other data necessary for responding to client help desk calls. The application simplifies specimen shipment and tracking by allowing clients to login to the relevant client site, select shipping options, enter/update contact information, enter number of packages and specimens, generate shipping labels, and track shipment status. The application's inventory functions collect information and automatically generates both supply invoices and re-supply orders, based on client-specified minimum and maximum quantities. The software can interface with electronic medical records systems which use Health Level Seven International (HL7) messaging

and allows for automation of all steps in the testing process, including test request, shipping, resulting, and statistical reporting. All sites are encouraged to review the "Navy Processing Instructions" tutorial on the CDD AFTIS website under the "Request Shipping Labels". This provides instructions on handling, labeling, and shipping samples to CDD. AFTIS is accessible to all Navy Submitting sites, go to https://cddmedical.labcorp.com/resources/provider-tools.

Specimen Labeling, Shipping, and Ordering

Specimens must be labeled and shipped according to the testing lab's policy and procedures. The guidelines for specimen labeling and shipping are available on the NBIMC website at this link Testing Contractor Submission Guidelines. **Specimens labeled incorrectly, illegible barcode labels wrinkled, smudged, or blank, will be rejected by the testing lab (see example of incorrect/blank barcodes below).**

Specimen orders must be entered before the shipment of specimens. Sites are responsible for ensuring the orders are placed, specimens are labeled properly with the correct test order, and review the shipping manifest. **The testing lab cannot re-label a specimen or place test orders.** If a site expects shipping delays, then the collected samples need to be centrifuged and the serum transferred into a screw cap vial(supplied). Please see example figures below.

Figure 1 (16 x 100 Plastic Serum Separator Tube)

Figure 2 (5 mL Screw cap Serum Transfer Tube)

Recent Updates

Frequently Asked Question(s)

Question: My site received an email for Specimens about to be discarded. Batch #: DODHML-A1021-3144 (06/21/21) have been transmitted. What is the status of the tests?

Answer: To research the status of specific orders and specimens, sites ***must*** send/email the barcode numbers and your site UIC with your request to CDD at Military@cddmedical.com The testing lab does not receive any batch information only the barcode number.

DEFICIENCY AWARENESS cont.

Below are definitions for deficiency errors 4 – 9. If these deficiencies occur, the corresponding **site needs to redraw patient.**

Code Legend

D4 Barcode label cut off, too dark, wrinkled, unscannable.

D5 Discrepancy exists between the information on the tube and the order information.

D6 Specimen submitted without identification and/or accompanying labels (name, barcode).

D7 The specimen condition unable to test Hemolysis, Lipemia, etc.

D8 Quantity Not Sufficient

D9 Individual Specimen Contamination or Gross Leakage

DEFICIENCY AWARENESS

DISCARDS: "Specimens Discarded"

DEFINITION:

For most of the affected sites, a final email with the subject "Specimens Discarded", indicates that corrections were NOT made within the deficiency guidelines, and the specimens were discarded and/or that the specimens were sent with uncorrectable errors (such as hemolyzed specimens, horizontal barcodes on tubes etc.).

For more information…

Have questions regarding a NBIMC program?

Service Offerings
Key Resources
Contact Us

Need to reach CDD? Contact **877.233.1337** or email: Military@cddmedical.com