

Standard Operating Procedure:
**SERVICE COUNSELING FOR PARTNERS AND
CHILDREN OF INDEX CLIENTS BY TEST RESULT**



**IF THE PARTNER AND/OR
BIOLOGICAL CHILD
TESTED HIV POSITIVE**



**1 Sex and/or Injecting
Drug Use Partner**

- a** Link to treatment
- b** Offer index testing
- c** In addition to sex and injecting drug use partners, ask for social and risk network contacts



2 Biological Child <19 years old

- a** Link to treatment
- b** Children/adolescents over the age of consent should be given post-test counseling and informed of their test result directly
- c** Children 6-12 years of age should be told their HIV positive status by a trusted caregiver or health-care worker using truthful information, appropriate to the child's understanding
- d** Children 5 and younger should be informed over time to accommodate their cognitive skills and emotional maturity, in preparation for full disclosure



**IF THE PARTNER AND/OR BIOLOGICAL CHILD
TESTED HIV NEGATIVE**



**1 Sex and/or Injecting
Drug Use Partner**

- a** Link to HIV prevention services (PrEP, VMMC, risk reduction counseling and condom promotion, STI screening and treatment, repeat HIV testing)
- b** If unprotected sex or injecting drug use occurred recently, client may still be in the "window" period. Retest in 6-8 weeks after the exposure to HIV occurred to confirm status

2 Biological Child <19 years old

- a** If a child/adolescent is at risk for HIV, refer to HIV preventive services so they can take steps to remain HIV-free as they grow



**IF THE PARTNER AND/OR BIOLOGICAL CHILD
ARE ALREADY KNOWN TO BE HIV POSITIVE**

**1 Sex and/or Injecting
Drug Use Partner**

- a** Confirm if the partner is currently on treatment
- b** If the partner is not currently on treatment, conduct ART and adherence counseling and link to treatment
- c** Offer index testing. If the partner agrees to participate in index testing, obtain a list of sex and/or injecting drug use partners and biological children <19 years old. During elicitation, encourage the partner to provide names of sex and injecting drug use partners other than the original index client. Explain that since both partners are HIV positive, one acquired HIV from a previous sexual contact and you are trying to find and test that person.
- d** In addition to sex and injecting drug use partners, ask for social and risk network contacts.

2 Biological Child <19 years old

- a** Confirm if the child is currently on treatment
- b** If the child is not currently on treatment, conduct ART and adherence counseling and link to treatment



REMEMBER!

*HIV index testing is entirely voluntary!
Never coerce, pressure or oblige a client to share information with you.
Remind clients that they can change their mind and stop the process at any time.*