



Pat Quinn, Governor
LaMar Hasbrouck, MD, MPH, Director

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MEMORANDUM

Date: October 15, 2012

To: Local Health Departments

From: Mildred Williamson, PhD, MSW
HIV/AIDS Section Chief
Illinois Department of Public Health

Re: HIV Guidelines in the County Jail Act (730 ILCS 125/17.10)

Section 17.10 of The County Jail Act (Act) (730 ILCS 125/17.10) discusses requirements in connection with HIV/AIDS in Illinois county jails. Section 17.10 outlines the minimum requirements for testing and education to county jail inmates and visitors. The following bulleted points are highlights of the Act and its HIV/AIDS requirements:

- In counties, other than Cook County, the staff of the county jail (the warden, a correctional officer, or a member of the medical staff), during the medical admissions exam must provide the prisoner with appropriate written information concerning human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS).
- In Cook County, during the medical admissions exam, an employee of the Cook County Health & Hospitals System (System) must provide the prisoner with appropriate information in writing, verbally, by video, or other electronic means concerning HIV and AIDS. The prisoner must also be provided with the option of testing for HIV infection or any other identified causative agent of AIDS, as well as counseling in connection with such testing.
- The Department of Public Health and community-based organizations certified to provide HIV/AIDS testing must provide HIV/AIDS informational materials to all county jails, including Cook County, at no cost to the county.
- In all counties, except Cook County, the warden, a correctional officer, or a member of the jail medical staff must inform the prisoner of the option of being tested for HIV infection by a certified local community-based agency or other available medical provider at no charge to the prisoner. In Cook County, the System may provide the inmate with opt-out HIV testing, unless the inmate refuses.
- In all counties, including Cook County, the warden of the county jail must make appropriate written information concerning HIV/AIDS available to every visitor to the county jail. This information must include information concerning persons or entities to contact for local counseling and testing. The Department of Public Health and community-based organizations certified to provide HIV/AIDS testing must provide these informational materials to the warden at no cost to the office of the county sheriff.

HIV brochures are able to be down loaded at http://www.idph.state.il.us/pub_home.htm#hiv . For more information and materials please contact: Michael Gaines, MPA at michael.gaines@illinois.gov or (217) 524-5983.

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