



June 27, 2007

Dear Colleague,

We are very pleased to announce that after much hard work by a number of colleagues both within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and in state and local health departments, we have finalized a new STD/HIV Interview Record form. We undertook the revision to ascertain updated risk-related variables and decrease duplication of effort and paperwork. Risk factor information collected on this form has been approved by both the Division of STD Prevention (DSTDP) and the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention (DHAP). The new, integrated record was developed in collaboration with colleagues at state and local health departments and was extensively field tested.

We believe the standardized collection of behavioral data associated with STDs, including HIV, will provide us and our state and local partners with a much better understanding of who is becoming infected and why. We strongly encourage all programs: 1) to collect the information requested on the form; 2) where appropriate, to collect additional information that may be useful in serving local program management needs, and; 3) to regularly review these and other relevant epidemiological data to ensure that prevention activities are appropriately targeted and effectively implemented.

The new interview record and accompanying guidance and training materials are being distributed to the field this month. Each of the Divisions (DSTDP and DHAP) will be communicating more specifically with their funded project areas about details of training, transition and implementation.

We sincerely appreciate the substantive input from our colleagues in state and local health departments, as well as your patience in piloting the interview record and reviewing numerous drafts. We are also very appreciative of staff in the Divisions of HIV/AIDS Prevention and STD Prevention who worked hard to bring this project to fruition.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Kevin A. Fenton in black ink.

Kevin Fenton, MD, PhD, FFPP, Director
National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention

Handwritten signature of John M. Douglas, Jr. in black ink.

John M. Douglas, Jr., MD, Director
Division of STD Prevention
National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention

Handwritten signature of Robert S. Janssen in black ink.

Robert S. Janssen, MD, Director
Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention
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