

CONSULTATION, REFERRALS & RESOURCES

For the Baltimore Area:

Johns Hopkins HIV in Pregnancy Program

Pager 1-866-287-1449 (24 hours a day • 7 days a week)

Johns Hopkins HIV Women's Health Program

410-614-3023

University of Maryland Women's Center

Program for HIV Care in Pregnancy

410-706-2500

National:

National Perinatal HIV Consultation and Referral Service

Perinatal Hotline - 1-888-448-8765 (24 hours a day • 7 days a week)

Other Resources:

Maryland AIDS Administration

410-767-5227 or toll-free 1-800-358-9001

www.dhmf.state.md.us/AIDS

Institute of Human Virology

410-328-8674

www.ihv.org/aboutihv/index.html

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

1-800-CDC-INFO

www.cdc.gov



The Baltimore Regional Perinatal Advisory Group

A project of the Baltimore County Department of Health
6401 York Road • Baltimore MD • 21212 • 410-887-3134
www.baltimorecountymd.gov/go/perinatal



Baltimore County
Department of Health

Adapted with permission from a brochure by the Center for HIV
Education and Research, University of South Florida,
www.USFCenter.org.

Remember, It's the Best Practice... and it's the Law



In 1997, Maryland state legislation mandated that health care providers counsel and **offer HIV testing** to all expectant mothers because...
in most cases, perinatal transmission of HIV can be prevented!

LEGISLATION

Maryland law* requires health care providers of pregnant women to:

- ◆ Offer an HIV test as part of the patient's prenatal care;
- ◆ Counsel about the benefits of HIV testing and about prophylaxis to reduce the risk of vertical transmission to the fetus or infant;
- ◆ Discuss with the patient that a refusal to consent to an HIV test, or a positive test result, is not a basis for denying prenatal care;
- ◆ Obtain voluntary written informed consent.

Counseling and testing should be offered at the earliest opportunity in pregnancy. Women who appear at delivery with no record of an HIV test during pregnancy should be counseled and offered a rapid HIV test. The record of an HIV test is confidential.

** Annotated Code of Maryland, Health Occupations Article, subsection 18-338.2.*

RAPID TESTING

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends routine rapid HIV testing for women who appear at delivery with unknown status. Although not currently available in all Maryland hospitals, rapid testing in labor and delivery allows women with undocumented HIV status to learn their status quickly, receive antiretroviral therapy to reduce the risk of HIV transmission to their newborns, and be referred for medical treatment and follow-up.

FACTS

- ◆ More than 28,000 Marylanders are infected with HIV/AIDS.
- ◆ Maryland ranks fourth in the nation for annual AIDS cases reported in 2004.
- ◆ Nearly 40% of new HIV cases in Maryland are women.
- ◆ Between 200-225 HIV-positive women in Maryland give birth each year.
- ◆ There were 5 cases of perinatal transmission in 2003, and the numbers continue to decrease...yet many pregnant women remain unaware of their HIV status.

HIV TESTING: IT CAN SAVE A BABY'S LIFE

Treating women protects infants.
With appropriate treatment and intervention,
perinatal transmission rates can be reduced
from as much as 30% to
less than 2%!!

Do your part in reducing the incidence
of HIV infection in infants –
offer HIV testing to all women.

Take advantage of educational and training opportunities...
contact the Maryland AIDS Administration
at 410-767-5073, www.dhmmh.state.md.us/AIDS
or the Institute of Human Virology (IHV),
AIDS Education & Conference Center
at 410-328-8674, www.ihv.org.

Continuing Education Credits are available.