

## Take the Test, Take Control – Mon June 27 is National HIV Testing Day

National HIV Testing Day (NHTD) is an event organized by the [National Association of People with AIDS \(NAPWA\)](#) in partnership with other national and local entities across the country. The 17<sup>th</sup> annual NHTD takes place this year on Mon Jun 27 as part of an ongoing effort to combat the growing HIV epidemic by teaching those at risk the powerful reasons for learning one's HIV status. This initiative is unique in that the message “*Take the Test, Take Control*” comes directly from those already living with HIV.



As the HIV epidemic turns thirty, the CMS reminds the healthcare community that Medicare provides coverage for HIV screening for Medicare beneficiaries at increased risk for HIV infection based on the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommendations and subject to coverage and eligibility guidelines.

### *What Can You Do?*

CMS urges Medicare providers to help the cause by educating seniors and other beneficiaries on the various preventive services covered by Medicare; for at-risk beneficiaries, use your office visits as an opportunity to inform your patients about the benefits of HIV screening. Medicare provides coverage for HIV screening as a Medicare Part B benefit; eligible beneficiaries may receive this service at no out-of-pocket cost (no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible). (Beneficiaries with any known prior diagnosis of HIV-related illness are not eligible for this screening test.)

### *For More Information:*

- [CMS National Coverage Determination – NCD for Screening for HIV](#)
- [Medicare Learning Network's "Guide to Medicare Preventive Services"](#)
- [MLN Matters Article MM6786, "Screening for HIV"](#)
- [MLN's "HIV Screening" Brochure](#)
- [US Preventive Services Task Force \(USPSTF\) – Screening for HIV Recommendation Statement](#)
- [Department of Health & Human Services – National HIV Testing](#)
- [NAPWA National HIV Testing Day](#)