



CDA Position on **HIV Blood Testing by Dentists**

The Canadian Dental Association feels that it is important to consider the purpose of testing and the responsibilities and principles for management of the person living with HIV.

To support the oral health care of a patient, dentists may order HIV blood testing using the following criteria:

1. The patient has given informed consent.
2. The test is required for the diagnosis or treatment planning for the patient.
3. The test is accompanied by adequate pre- and post-testing counseling, as defined by the Canadian Medical Association.
4. There is provision for immediate and appropriate referral to a primary care physician who will be responsible for the comprehensive medical care of the patient.

Since universal precautions should always be followed, infectious agent testing should not be required to ascertain the degree of infectious risk a patient may present to a practitioner.

*Approved
CDA Board of Directors
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