

**HIV ANTIBODY TEST
Information Form For Insurance Applicant**

Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is a life-threatening disorder of the immune system, caused by a virus, HIV. The virus is transmitted by sexual contact with an infected person, from an infected mother to her newborn infant, or by exposure to infected blood (as in needle sharing during IV drug use). Persons at high risk of contracting AIDS include males who have had sexual contact with another man, intravenous drug users, hemophiliacs, and persons who have had sexual contact with any of these persons. AIDS does not typically develop until a person has been infected with HIV for several years. A person may remain free of symptoms for years after becoming infected. Infected persons have a 25 percent to 50 percent chance of developing AIDS over the next ten years.

The HIV Antibody Test:

Before consenting to testing, please read the following important information:

- 1. Purpose.** This test is being run to determine whether you may have been infected with HIV. If you are infected, you are probably not insurable. This test is not a test for AIDS; AIDS can only be diagnosed by medical evaluation.
- 2. Positive test results.** If you test positive, you should seek medical follow-up with your personal physician. If your test is positive, you may be infected with HIV.
- 3. Accuracy.** An HIV test will be considered positive only after confirmation by a laboratory procedure that the state health officer has determined to be highly accurate. Nonetheless, the HIV antibody test is not 100 percent accurate. Possible errors include:
 - a. False positives: This test gives a positive result, even though you are not infected. This happens rarely and is more common in persons who have not engaged in high-risk behavior. Retesting should be done to help confirm the validity of a positive test.
 - b. False negatives: The test gives a negative result, even though you are infected with HIV. This happens most commonly in recently infected persons; it takes at least 4 to 12 weeks for a positive test result to develop after a person is infected.
- 4. Side effects.** A positive test result may cause you significant anxiety. A positive test may result in uninsurability for life, health, or disability insurance policies for which you may apply in the future. Although prohibited by law, discrimination in housing, employment, or public accommodations may result if your test results become known to others. A negative result may create a false sense of security.
- 5. Disclosure of results.** A positive test result will only be disclosed to you as an adverse underwriting decision. The results of the blood test will be sent to the physician designated on this form and that physician should be contacted for more information regarding the HIV related test.
- 6. Confidentiality.** Like all medical information, HIV test results are confidential. An insurer, insurance agent, or insurance-support organization is required to maintain the confidentiality of HIV test results. However, certain disclosures of your test results may occur, including those authorized by consent forms that you may have signed as part of your overall application. Your test results may be provided to the Medical Information Bureau, a national insurance data bank. Your insurance agent will provide you with additional written information about this subject at your request.
- 7. Prevention.** Persons who have a history of high-risk behavior should change these behaviors to prevent getting or giving AIDS, regardless of whether they are tested. Specific important changes in behavior include safe sex practices (including condom use for sexual contact with someone other than a long-term monogamous partner) and not sharing needles.
- 8. Information.** Further information about HIV testing and AIDS can be obtained by calling the national AIDS hotline at 1-800-342-2437.

INFORMED CONSENT

I hereby authorize the Company and its designated medical facilities to draw samples of my blood or other bodily fluid for the purpose of laboratory testing to provide applicable medical information concerning my insurability. These tests may include but are not limited to tests for: cholesterol and related blood lipids; diabetes; liver or kidney disorders; infection by the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV) virus (if permitted by law); immune disorders; or the presence of medications, drugs, nicotine or other metabolites. The tests will be done by a medically accepted procedure which is extremely reliable.

If an HIV Antibody Screen is performed, it will be performed only by a certified laboratory and according to the following medical protocol:

1. An initial ELISA blood or other bodily fluid test will be done.
 - a. If the initial ELISA blood or other bodily fluid test is positive, it will be repeated.
 - b. If the initial ELISA blood or other bodily fluid test is negative, a negative finding will be reported to the Company.
2. If the initial ELISA blood or other bodily fluid test is positive, it will be repeated.
 - a. If the second ELISA blood or other bodily fluid test is also positive, a Western Blot blood or other bodily fluid test will be performed to confirm the positive results of the two ELISA blood or other bodily fluid tests.
 - b. If the second ELISA blood or other bodily fluid test is negative, a third ELISA blood or other bodily fluid test will be performed. If the third ELISA blood or other bodily fluid test is positive, a Western Blot blood or other bodily fluid test will be performed to confirm the previous positive results. If the third blood or other bodily fluid test is negative, a negative result will be reported to the Company.
3. Only if at least two ELISA blood or other bodily fluid tests and a Western Blot blood or other bodily fluid test are all positive will the result be reported as a positive. All other results will be reported as negative to the Company.

Without a court order or written authorization from me, these results will be made known only to the Company and its reinsurers (if involved in the underwriting process). The Company will provide results of all tests to a physician of my choice. Positive test results to the HIV Antibody Screen will be disclosed only to my physician or an alternative testing site as I direct below. In addition, the Company may make a brief report to MIB, in a manner described in the Pre-notice which I received as a part of the application process. The only information the Company will report to MIB is that positive results were obtained from a blood or other bodily fluid test. The Company will not report what tests were performed or that the positive result was for HIV antibodies.

These organizations will be the only ones maintaining this information in any type of file except as required by law. Positive HIV Antibody Screen results are to be reported to:

Name of Physician

Address of Physician

This authorization will be valid for 90 days from the date below.

Dated at: _____ Day _____ Month, 20_____

Witness: _____
Agent's Signature

Proposed Insured: _____
Signature