

Show up for World AIDS Day and Beyond!

Tips for Health Care Providers

December 1st is World AIDS Day, which means now is a great time to promote HIV and STI prevention, testing, and treatment. Here are some things you can do this World AIDS Day and beyond to help patients take control of their sexual health:

- Share [social media messages to promote World AIDS Day](#) and HIV and sexual health prevention resources.
- Give patients resources, like the [Department of Health's winter checklists](#), to help them take care of themselves.
- Talk to patients about their risk factors for HIV and STIs, and what they can do to protect themselves, what you can do to help, and where they can [find additional support in their community](#).
- Know your (patients') status. Review your records to check the status of your patient population. Has everyone been tested? Has anyone fallen off from care? Reach out to anyone who may need additional support. Need help getting reconnected with a patient? [Contact a local disease intervention specialist](#).
- Promote your clinic as a safe and confidential place for getting HIV and STI treatment.

Encourage patients to get screened. For example, you can:

- Host sexual health focused screening and testing events throughout the month.
- Use social media to promote HIV and STI screening.
- Update your website's home page to include sexual health screening messages and resources.

Invite patients in without stigma

- Use the [stigma language guide](#) to be intentional with your words and help patients feel supported. Make a commitment to implement one recommendation from the guide throughout the month of December. Then keep going!
- Normalize testing and retesting. Let patients know that screening and testing for STIs and HIV is very common and recommended for most people. For many people, it's normal to get screened several times a year.

Celebrate your patients who are living with HIV!

Ask them how you can be a better partner in helping achieve their health goals.



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