

HIV and Hepatitis C Testing: Informed consent and giving results

8 February to 14 March 2021

A five week interactive, facilitated online course providing information on current guidelines and best clinical practice for health workers managing clients who present for HIV and/or hepatitis testing.

Topics covered include:

- Current NSW and national guidelines
- Emotional and psychosocial responses to HIV and hepatitis C testing
- Legal issues
- The pre-test interview – what to cover to gain consent
- Risk assessment
- Giving results and providing support
- Application to your work practice

Who should attend? All health and non-health providers who will be gaining informed consent for HIV or hepatitis C testing and providing initial result support.

Requirements: Participants will need an email address and access to the internet and will be expected to spend approximately 3-4 hours per week for 5 weeks. This course is counted as 15 hours of study, which may be counted towards continuing professional development within your discipline.

Course Fees: Free

For enquiries or to register, please contact Albion Education and Development

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The Albion Centre – Working towards the virtual elimination of HIV transmission and the elimination of Hepatitis C as a public health threat by 2030

Learning outcomes:

At the end of the course it is anticipated that participants will be able to:

- Identify the importance of correct management of HIV and HCV testing
- Discuss the transmission, course of infection and epidemiology of HIV and HCV
- Conduct an interview to gain informed consent for HIV or HCV testing
- Assess and communicate the risk of different types of exposure and how to prevent future exposures

- Explain the legal issues relating to testing for HIV or HCV
- Provide information to allow clients to make informed decisions about testing
- Conduct a follow up interview to appropriately communicate the results of testing
- Be able to refer clients to appropriate services

Course outline and schedule:

	Topic	Activities to complete
Week 1	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Terminology✓ The NSW HIV Strategy✓ Testing logistics✓ Testing principles✓ HIV and HCV infection, life cycle and transmission✓ Policies	Post introduction Discussion forum
Week 2	Deciding to test <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Legal issues✓ Rapid testing✓ Sample checklist	Discussion forum
Week 3	Risk assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ How to assess risks of different behaviours	Discussion forum Quiz
Week 4	Gaining informed consent <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Communication skills✓ The pre-test interview✓ Understanding and responding to distress	Discussion forum Develop checklist
Week 5	Giving results and advanced skills <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Giving results and post-test counselling✓ HIV diagnosis and adjustment✓ Boundaries and self-care✓ Pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis	Discussion forum

What others said about this course:

“Really easy to “attend” the course and work when convenient. Very interesting material and discussion to read.”

“I enjoyed the sense of collegiality due to the introductions, discussions and feedback within the forums. I also really enjoyed the videos that provided human experiences to break up the reading.”

“The material was very clear and arranged well in topics that you could work through at your own pace. Reading documents prompted exploration into other websites listed and further study. “