

Fee for Rapid HIV Testing

On October 31, 2007, the Board approved a \$30.00 fee per client for the STD/HIV Program staff to perform a Rapid HIV Test (10 minutes). The test will be performed under Standing Delegation Orders established by the Deputy Health Authority and cashier and accounting procedures to be established by the Chief Financial Officer.

- The Galveston County Health District has provided HIV Testing since April of 1985. The Department of State Health Services (DSHS) did not renew the funding for the HIV Test in 2007. Therefore, we can no longer provide free HIV testing to the people of Galveston County.
- The funding for HIV Testing in Galveston County was given to Planned Parenthood of East Texas, which is headquartered in Houston, Texas.
- Planned Parenthood of East Texas provides four hours of HIV testing in the City of Galveston 3 Mondays each month at the cost of \$35.00 for an oral test to \$75.00 for a twenty minute HIV test.
- Additional Planned Parenthood testing sites are in Dickinson located at 3315 Gulf Freeway on Wednesdays for four hours and Texas City at the Salvation Army once a month for four hours.

Public Need:

We are receiving between two and four calls a week about the availability of HIV Testing for the general public. We expect 10 to 15 clients per week to begin with and increase as the word spreads. This will meet the public demand for convenient HIV testing at an affordable cost to clients.