Most people* accept an HIV test

when suggested by their healthcare professional

Test for HIV. Treat HIV. Prevent onward transmission of HIV.

Join other clinics for the next European Testing Week It's good health practice!

WHEN should an HIV test be offered?

HIV testing should be routinely offered to individuals who:

- Belong to key populations/at-risk groups
- Have been diagnosed with other sexually transmitted infections
- Have been diagnosed with hepatitis C or tuberculosis
- Present with other signs and symptoms that could be related to HIV infection. Refer to 'HIV Indicator Conditions: Guidance for implementing HIV testing in Adults in Health Care Settings' for more details (<u>https://bit.ly/3Du31IC</u>)

ALWAYS OFFER TO TEST FOR HEPATITIS TO INDIVIDUALS WHO BELONG TO AT RISK GROUPS AND THOSE KNOWINGLY LIVING WITH HIV.

* 73-88% of patients accepted an HIV test: SUTHAR A, FORD N, BACHANAS P, et al. (2013) Towards Universal Voluntary HIV Testing and Counselling: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Community-Based Approaches, Plos Medicine, 10(8).

WHY should an HIV test be offered early?

- When people are diagnosed with HIV late, they are less likely to respond well to treatment and more likely to have health and/or treatment-related complications
- Late diagnosis and delayed access to treatment are the most important factors associated with ongoing transmission of HIV
- Late access to HIV care is more costly for the health care system.

In 2020, 18% of the 2.2 million people living with HIV in Europe were unaware that they were HIV positive; and around half of those who are positive were diagnosed late, delaying access to treatment as well as prevention of onwards transmission. A positive HIV test result requires that your patient is linked to appropriate care and treatment.

For more information about the European Testing Week and how your clinic can participate, visit <u>www.testingweek.eu</u>

