



12 - HIV Screening in the Emergency Department

(Adopted 10/11)

The American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians (ACOEP) acknowledges that the early treatment and diagnosis of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) can prolong life, reduce transmission and has been acknowledged to be a cost-effective mechanism for intervention.

HIV testing in the evaluation of patient care in the emergency department should be available in an expedient and effective method; and screening for this condition (when deemed appropriate) by the treating physician must meet the following conditions:

1. The general mission of health care for the patient is not interfered with
2. Is integrated into the general care for the patient
3. Care has been taken to ensure patient confidentiality, including the utilization of informed consent, availability of patient counseling, and referral for continuing care.