Routine HIV Testing in U.S. Healthcare Facilities

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends routine HIV screening in all clinical settings. While there has been some progress integrating this practice across healthcare systems, more can be done.

Primary Care Facilities

- Of primary care internists reporting having access to rapid HIV testing, however, only 15% of their patients located HIV tests, and less than 40% of pediatric primary care providers reported screening their patients for HIV.

Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment Facilities

- Only about 1/4 SUD treatment facilities provide HIV testing.

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patients for HIV.

Correctional Facilities

- 9% prison systems provide opt-out HIV testing.

Mental Health Facilities

It is unclear what the HIV testing rates in U.S. mental health facilities are, but mental health patients are 4x more likely to be infected.

College Campus Health Centers

A limited study of HIV testing among college campuses revealed that less than 5% of students were tested for HIV at their college campus health center within the academic year.

Dental Settings

While there is no published data on HIV testing rates in the dental setting, barriers to adopting this practice exist. Some of the biggest concerns for dentists are:

- Uncertainty about linking patients to appropriate care
- Inexperience communicating results to patients
- Inaccessibility of reimbursement
- Costs of performing rapid test

References:

From a national survey of HIV testing practices, approximately 2/3 academic sites & 1/2 community sites perform routine HIV tests.

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Emergency Departments (EDs)

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- More academic EDs reported receiving external funding to support testing.
- Academic EDs make up only 3% of all EDs in the U.S.
- More community EDs considered costs a significant barrier to testing.
