

OFFER OF HIV TESTING

[Patient sticker goes here]

REASON FOR THIS FORM: New York State Public Health Law now requires *documentation that all patients* (ages 13-64) receiving primary care or hospital services have been offered the opportunity to test for HIV.

WHY TESTING IS IMPORTANT: Knowing your HIV status is important for your health. Many people find knowing their HIV status helps them protect their partners and themselves. Some people want to test for HIV before beginning a new sexual relationship or becoming pregnant. Most will be reassured to learn they are not infected. People who do test positive for HIV can benefit from medications that delay or prevent AIDS and other serious infections, and strategies to support their overall health.

WHAT TO CONSIDER: You may be at risk for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, if you have had:

- unprotected sex (oral, anal, or vaginal sex without a barrier)
- contact with blood, including sharing needles (for piercing, tattooing, or injecting drugs) or sharing "works"

IF YOU WANT TO GET TESTED: Please talk with your health care provider today or in the future. Both oral and blood testing for HIV antibodies are available at Gannett (fees apply). Tests also are available at various locations in the Ithaca community (fees and testing details vary). Get a complete testing resource list at www.gannett.cornell.edu [search "HIV testing"].

I, _____ (*first and last name*), acknowledge that Gannett has offered the opportunity for me to be tested for HIV. I understand that this offer is being made in compliance with NY State Public Health Law and that I am not being singled out for testing based on any evident or presumed risk factors.

_____ **I would like to discuss HIV testing with a health care provider today.**
(This does not commit you to having the test.)

_____ **I do not wish to have an HIV test at this time.**

I understand my HIV status is confidential and will not be shared without my permission.

Signature _____ Date _____