

I want to remain anonymous for this test. Is that an option?

If that is your wish, you may do the HIV test anonymously. Please ask your physician for details. The IMD offers to take samples directly at the institute from Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

How long do I have to wait for the test results?

Usually, the test results are available at the latest one day after your blood sample was taken. Results may be collected in person or mailed to you.

Supplied by:

Practice stamp

Please note that information regarding reimbursement is only valid for patients who are either members of German statutory or private health insurance.

Patients covered by statutory health insurances:

Some medical services are as a matter of principle not or not in every case (e.g. upon the patient's individual request) covered by health insurance providers. In these cases, patients have to bear the costs themselves. If the physician refers the case and/or there is a certain medical indication (e.g. after a risky exposure), it constitutes a service in accordance with the German Uniform Assessment Standard (EBM). Current prices are to be found on the order form for individual health care services.

Patients covered by private health insurances:

Private insurance companies cover the costs in accordance with the German Scale of Medical Fees (GOÄ), unless such benefits had been explicitly excluded from a policy. Your physician will be happy to answer any questions on the matter.

IMD Institut für Medizinische Diagnostik Berlin-Potsdam GbR



IMD
Labor Berlin

IMD Berlin MVZ

Nicolaistraße 22
12247 Berlin (Steglitz)
Tel +49 30 77001-322
Fax +49 30 77001-332
Info@IMD-Berlin.de
IMD-Berlin.de



HIV- („AIDS“) test

If you do happen to be unsure



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HIV

AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) is a disease that stems from an infection with the HI (Human Immunodeficiency) virus and may occur years or decades after the infection - Alongside with the destruction of immune cells. There are different forms of therapy, but it has to be acknowledged that the HI virus can, despite all medical progress made, not be eliminated in the human body. Protection against the initial infection is therefore still the most important countermeasure. Here, condoms have proven to be most effective.

How does one contract HIV?

Most common ways to contract HIV are:

- unprotected intercourse
- contact with blood
- intravenous drug use
- mother-to-child transmission

If you happen to be unsure, then an HIV test can exclude an infection with a high degree of certainty.

After what period after an infection does the test turn out to be positive?

Assuming a normal immune response, antibodies against the HI virus will be traceable in blood at the earliest 4 to 6 weeks after an infection. If blood contact is certain (for example after an injury with a needle), or following your own request, the HI virus can also be detected directly with an HIV-PCR that delivers results at an earlier stage.

How sensitive is the HIV test?

Modern tests possess a high sensitivity. Thus, in case of a negative result and a normal immune response, one can be very sure not to have contracted HIV. The test detects antibodies against HIV types I and II, as well as a certain virus protein (antigen).

What do I do when the test result is positive?

A positive test result has to be confirmed with a second blood sample. In addition, the viral load in blood should be determined. The subsequent therapy is then planned and executed in specially qualified medical practices. If you want to enquire about these practices you can contact your physician or us, the IMD, in confidence.