

## PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV

Of the 37 million people living with HIV globally, only an estimated 51 percent of HIV-positive people know their status.<sup>1</sup>



## KNOW YOUR STATUS

HIV testing allows people who have HIV to know their status, get lifesaving treatment and care, and prevent HIV transmission to others.<sup>3,4</sup>



## HIV TESTING

Since the early days of the HIV epidemic, HIV tests have improved considerably. Today, fourth-generation tests are available that can screen for both antibodies and antigens (a part of the HIV virus), and can detect HIV infection earlier than antibody-only tests, as it can take time for the body to produce detectable antibodies in response to the virus.<sup>2</sup>



## HIV FACTS

Many people don't realize they have HIV because they feel fine. HIV attacks the cells that normally defend the body against illness. If someone is infected with HIV and doesn't get medical treatment, eventually it can destroy cells to the point that the body can't fight infections and disease anymore. When that happens, HIV infection can lead to AIDS.

## GETTING THE FACTS

# Do You Know Your HIV Status?

Voluntary HIV testing and counseling allow people who have HIV to know their status, get lifesaving treatment and care, and prevent HIV transmission to others.<sup>3,4</sup> Visit [who.int](http://who.int) and [Abbott.com](http://Abbott.com) for more information.

### REFERENCES

1. HIV/AIDS. World Health Organization. <http://www.who.int/hiv/en/>.
2. Constantine N. HIV antibody assays. May 2006; page 2. HIV InSite Knowledge Base (online textbook). <http://hivinsite.ucsf.edu/InSite?page=kb-00&doc=kb-02-02-01>.
3. Cohen MS, Chen YQ, McCauley M, et al. Prevention of HIV-1 infection with early antiretroviral therapy. *N Engl J Med*. 2011;365:493-505.
4. Marks G, Crepaz N, Janssen RS. Estimating sexual transmission of HIV from persons aware and unaware that they are infected with the virus in the USA. *AIDS*. 2006;20:1447-1450.