



HIV/AIDS COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE (COP) AMONG HISPANICS/LATINOS IN GEORGIA

Division of Health Protection
Epidemiology Section
HIV/AIDS Surveillance Unit

Did you know?

- One in five people infected with HIV/AIDS does not know it. The best advice is not to involve yourself in any activity that will put you at risk for HIV infection
- Children who lose one or both of their parents to HIV/AIDS are more likely to:
 - Drop out of school
 - Be involved in crime or gang activities
 - Be forced into sexual/abusive activities, such as risky sexual behaviors or injected drug use, which increase their risk of contracting HIV or sexually-transmitted diseases (STDs)*
- Infected young adults are often unable to work and are thus unable to contribute to their families and communities
- The initial average monthly cost for HIV treatment is about \$2,100; treatment for the late stages start at \$4,700 per month**

What Can You Do?

- Protect against HIV/AIDS infection by using proven prevention methods
- Abstain from sex outside of a mutually faithful relationship with a partner who does not have the infection
- Do not use injectable drugs, but if so, NEVER share any drug equipment and get professional help in ending the substance abuse habit
- Practice safe sex. Use latex condoms every time you perform a sexual act. Get tested
- Do not share toothbrushes, razors or other implements that could be contaminated with blood
- Do not share needles for any reason, such as acupuncture, tattooing, ear piercing, etc.

Sources:

* Lyons, Miriam. "The Impact of HIV and AIDS on Children, Families and Communities: Risks and Realities of Childhood during the HIV Epidemic" United Nations Development Programme [UNDP], HIV and Development Programme, [2000], Issue Paper No. 30, and *Clinical Pediatrics* 33 (8): 498-502 as reported in National Network for Youth: Issue Brief #2.

** Horn, Tim. "The lifetime cost of current human immunodeficiency virus care in the United States." *AIDSmeds.com*; *Medical Care* 44(11): 990-7, 2006.

**For more information on HIV/AIDS, contact
the Office of Health Improvement's Georgia
HIV/AIDS TAKE Project at (404) 657-6707 or
visit www.hiv-aidstakesproject.org**