

California Department of Public Health  
Center for Infectious Diseases  
Office of AIDS

**Senate Bill 1184: Laboratory Reporting of CD4+ T-Cell Tests**

Talking Points

Senate Bill (SB) 1184 (Kuehl, Chapter 347, Statutes of 2008) requires each clinical laboratory to report all CD4+ T-cell tests with available patient demographic information and laboratory testing information to the local health officer (LHO) within seven days of the completion of a CD4+ T-cell test. LHOs are required to report unduplicated cases of HIV infection or AIDS, as appropriate, by patient name to the California Department of Public Health, Center for Infectious Diseases, Office of AIDS (OA). As an urgency statute, this bill went into effect on September 26, 2008, and added Section 121023 to the California Health and Safety Code.

**Purpose:**

The purpose of SB 1184 is to identify HIV and AIDS cases that may not be identified by other tests so those cases can be reported by local health departments. CD4+ T-cell test reporting by laboratories will also assist local health officials and OA to monitor the epidemiology and progression of HIV disease.

**SB 1184 requires:**

- Each clinical laboratory to report CD4+ T-cell test results to LHO for the local health jurisdiction where the health care provider facility is located within seven days of completion of the CD4+ T-cell test.
- Laboratories to include specific patient information when reporting CD4+ T-cell test results if that information is provided by the ordering health care provider.
  - The patient's name, date of birth, and gender.
  - The name, telephone number, and address of the local health care provider that ordered the test.
- Laboratories to include specific clinical and laboratory-related information when reporting CD4+ T-cell test results.
  - CD4+ T-Cell test results shall be expressed as an absolute count (the number of lymphocytes containing the CD4 epitope per cubic millimeter) and, if available, the relative count (the number of lymphocytes expressing the CD4 epitope as a percentage of total lymphocytes).
  - The type of laboratory test performed; the date the laboratory test was performed; the name, telephone number, and address of the clinical laboratory that performed the test; the laboratory CLIA number and the laboratory report number.
- LHOs to determine if the CD4+ T-cell test report is related to a case of HIV infection.
- LHOs to destroy any CD4+ T-cell test reports that are not related to a case of HIV infection.
- LHOs to report the case of HIV infection or AIDS, as appropriate, to OA within 45 days of receipt of the laboratory report.

- CD4+ T-cell test reports shall not be disclosed, discoverable, or compelled to be produced in any civil, criminal, administrative, or other proceeding.
- CD4+ T-cell test reports to be considered confidential public health records.

**SB 1184 will:**

- Enhance HIV and AIDS surveillance completeness, assisting local and state health departments in identifying current trends in the epidemic.
- Facilitate efficient targeting in prevention and care program planning through availability of complete HIV and AIDS surveillance data.
- Improve completeness of HIV and AIDS case reporting to assist in California's competitiveness for federal funding through the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act of 2006.
- Enable California to be consistent with the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's recommendations to all states to utilize CD4+ T-cell reports for HIV/AIDS surveillance.

**Resources:**

The full text of SB 1184 and its specific reporting requirements is available online at [www.leginfo.ca.gov/](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/) under "Bill Information."

OA Guidance Memo to Laboratories: New California Law Requiring CD4 Reporting, [www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/AIDS](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/AIDS) under "News."

OA HIV/AIDS Monthly Statistics at [www.cdph.ca.gov/data/statistics/Pages/OAHIVAIDSStatistics.aspx](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/data/statistics/Pages/OAHIVAIDSStatistics.aspx).