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FACT SHEET

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California Legal Authority for Provider and Local Public Health Department Staff Sharing
of Patient HIV/AIDS Information for Case Management

California Health and Safety Code, Section [121025\(c\)\(2\)\(C\)](#) authorizes local public health department staff to communicate with health care providers for the purpose of proactively offering and coordinating care and treatment services, *and so also authorizes health care providers to respond* with relevant patient information to these local public health department staff.

Section [121025\(c\)\(3\)](#) authorizes local public health department STD and TB control staff to communicate with health care providers for the purpose of facilitating appropriate medical care and treatment of persons co-infected with HIV, TB, syphilis, gonorrhea or chlamydia. This section *also authorizes health care providers to respond* with relevant patient information to these local public health department staff.

In July 2012, the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) released an analysis showing that only one-quarter of the 1.1 million Americans living with HIV have their infection under control. Along the HIV care continuum, there is a drop off of the number of persons in each of the five stages of care: 1) diagnosed with HIV; 2) in HIV care; 3) retained in HIV care over time; 4) receiving antiretroviral therapy; and 5) achieving viral suppression. Of the approximately 130,000 Californians living with HIV, 36 percent had achieved viral suppression in 2010. Overall, Californians living with HIV have higher viral suppression than the national figure of 25 percent.

The Office of AIDS encourages comprehensive and coordinated efforts between state and local public health department staff and health care providers to ensure more Californians living with HIV are aware of their status, linked to care and treatment services and remain in care to achieve viral load suppression. This partnership between public health staff and health care providers is critical for a coordinated public health response to California's HIV epidemic. See Office of AIDS website for California HIV care continuum information.

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Documents/HIVCareContinuum-Dec2013.pdf>