

HIV testing

Essential elements of the pre-test discussion

- 1) **EXPLAIN WHY** you are recommending an HIV test eg it is routine for patients in this setting or when clinically indicated by their condition
- 2) **ENSURE** the patient is aware of the benefits of knowing their HIV status, whatever it is
- 3) **GIVE DETAILS** about how the patient will get the test result (who, when, where)
- 4) **EMPHASISE CONFIDENTIALITY** and answer any questions (using the FAQ sheet provided)
- 5) **OBTAIN INFORMED CONSENT** to perform the test, and document it in the notes