



**HEALTHY
CHICAGO**

CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



122 S. Michigan Ave., Suite 700 • Chicago, IL 60603-6119 • www.dph.illinois.gov

May 1, 2015

Dear Colleague:

The Medical Monitoring Project (MMP) is a national, multi-site HIV surveillance activity conducted by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) in collaboration with Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). MMP is designed to provide comprehensive picture of medical care, health status and behavior of people living with HIV/AIDS. Data from MMP provide important local and national information on access to care and clinical outcomes of people living with HIV, including use of HIV medications, insurance status and frequency of HIV-related clinical testing.

Starting June 1, 2015, MMP participant selection will be determined using a Case Surveillance Based Sampling methodology (CSBS) where patients will be randomly selected from the HIV/AIDS case registry. This new methodology will enhance the representativeness of patients regardless of their care status. The information gathered from selected patients will remain the same, namely, face-to-face or phone-based interviews and medical chart abstractions. As with all HIV/AIDS surveillance data, the MMP CSBS information will be collected and maintained under the security and confidentiality guidelines based on local, state and federal requirements. No individual identifiers (i.e., patient or provider names, addresses, etc.) will be transmitted to CDC. The expanded representativeness of this new methodology will more accurately describe met and unmet needs for HIV care and prevention services which will guide policy and funding decisions aimed at improving the quality of care for people living with HIV/AIDS throughout the U.S.

We greatly appreciate your support in this very important initiative. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Marty Merritt, IDPH Project Coordinator at (312) 814-2023 or Divina Vargas, CDPH Project Coordinator at (312) 747-9609.

Sincerely,

Nanette Benbow, MAS
Deputy Commissioner, STI/ HIV Services
Chicago Department of Public Health

Craig Conover, MD
State Epidemiologist
Illinois Department of Public Health