TuSalud

National HIV Testing Day 2018

"Doing It My Way" highlights the many different reasons to get tested for HIV.

June 27, 2018 By Trent Straube

Wednesday, June 27, marks National HIV Testing Day (NHTD) 2018. This year's theme, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is "Doing It My Way, Testing for HIV."

The theme plays off a larger HIV testing and prevention campaign called "Doing It," which is part of the CDC's Act Against AIDS initiative. The micro-campaign highlights the fact that people have unique reasons for getting tested. The campaign encourages folks to share their HIV testing stories on social media with the hashtag #DoingItMyWay and, in Spanish, #HaciéndoloAMiManera. For example, you could tweet or describe in a Facebook post what motivates you to get tested for HIV. Or you could simply promote HIV testing and awareness, like some of the tweets included here.

> We enjoyed meeting many of you at #LatinxPride and learning how you're #DoingItMyWay! #HIV pic.twitter.com/YRhxGK5l4D
>
> — Talk HIV (@talkHIV) June 13, 2018

On its National HIV Testing Day web page, the CDC notes:

> About 1.1 million people in the United States have HIV, and 1 in 7 of them don't know it. Many people have HIV for years [1.86 MB] before they get a diagnosis. For those who are living with undiagnosed HIV, testing is the first step in maintaining a healthy life and reducing HIV transmission. CDC recommends that everyone between the ages of 13 and 64 get tested for HIV at least once as part of routine health care and those at high risk get tested at least once a year. Some sexually active gay and bisexual men may benefit from more frequent testing (every 3 to 6 months).
>
> Knowing your HIV status gives you powerful information to help keep you and your partner

healthy. Join us on NHTD to raise awareness about the importance of HIV testing and early diagnosis of HIV. Share why and how you are getting tested for a chance to be featured on the "Doing It My Way" social wall.

You can download social media kits and resources from the CDC here.

POZ blogger Shawn Decker and his partner, Gwenn, pictured above, participate in the CDC's awareness campaign. For Decker's recent blog post on the topic, read "#DoingItMyWay and Why I'm Positively for HIV Testing."

To learn the POZ Basics on HIV Testing, click here—and be sure to click through our interactive special "When Should I Get Tested?" For related POZ information in Spanish, click here. (Junio 27 es el día nacional de la prueba del VIH. Para información sobre como hacerse la prueba del VIH, haga clic aquí).

Did you know that National HIV Testing Day is Wednesday? NLGJA is encouraging everyone to get tested and our friends, including @frandrescher, are helping us spread the word! Discover your testing

options and locate a testing center at https://t.co/Yo9mSDf7TO! #DoingItMyWay pic.twitter.com/LjVwoXvWwz

— NLGJA (@nlgja) June 25, 2018

The CDC offers a wide variety of HIV testing resources, including social media banners for #NHTD and its #DoingIt campaign here.

And to learn about unique testing incentives at a Southern health center, read the POZ article "Want Beyoncé and Jay-Z Tickets? Then Get Tested for HIV."

#HIVTestingDay is tomorrow! Not sure how you'll be #DoingIt? Search for a testing day event near you using the @CDCNPIN testing day events map: https://t.co/GnjT2Hd11v #DoingItMyWay pic.twitter.com/xyrNbqndGC

— HIV.gov (@HIVGov) June 26, 2018

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