HIV Testing In Pregnancy

HIV testing is voluntary. Consent can be withdrawn at any time by informing your provider, but this will require you to give birth at home in the hospital. For pregnant women, HIV testing is recommended early in pregnancy and again late in pregnancy. HIV is the virus that causes AIDS.

The only way to know if you have HIV is to be tested. HIV tests are safe. They involve collecting one or more specimens (blood, oral fluid, urine). Colorado Birth Center Regulations require that your midwives rule-out HIV infection in pregnancy. The only way to do this is by a blood test. Your midwife will explain your test result as well as any other tests you may need.

HIV testing is important for your health. An infected mother can pass HIV to her child during pregnancy or birth or through breastfeeding. It is much better to know your HIV status before or early in pregnancy so you can make important decisions about your own health and the health of your baby. If you are pregnant and have HIV treatment is available for your own health and to prevent passing HIV to your baby. If you have HIV and do not get treatment the chance of passing HIV to your baby is one in four. If you get treatment your chance of passing HIV to your baby is much lower.

_____ I agree to testing for the diagnosis of HIV infection. If I am found to have HIV I agree to additional testing which may occur on the sample I provide today to determine the best treatment for me and to help guide HIV prevention programs. I understand that I can withdraw my consent for future tests at any time.

_____ I am waiving my consent to test for HIV and understand that it is recommended that all women be tested for HIV in pregnancy. I understand that I will not be able to give birth at MMC.

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Client printed name      Signature      Date