



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
23 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0023

PAUL R. LEPAGE  
GOVERNOR

STEPHEN L. BOWEN  
COMMISSIONER

TO: School Health Educators, School Health Coordinators and School Nurses

FR: Jean Zimmerman, HIV Prevention Education Program

RE: Webinar on HIV Biomedical Update on HIV/AIDS, STDs and Hepatitis  
Thursday, December 1, 2011, 2:30-4 p.m.

DA: October 31, 2011

*Health educators, school nurses, science teachers and students can benefit from this update on the biomedical aspects of HIV and are encouraged to participate. Please share with others.*

We are pleased Sandra Putnam, BSN, RN, FNP, Psychiatric NP joins us in this web broadcast to provide updated information on the HIV/AIDS pandemic—locally, nationally, and globally. She has extensive experience in treating people living with HIV/AIDS and serves on the Maine HIV Advisory Committee, the AIDS Drug Assistance Program and the Maine Community AIDS Partnership. Ms. Putnam will share the latest news on new treatments for HIV disease and will be available to answer questions. Also, she will bring with her guest speakers who will share their personal stories of living with the disease and the associated effects.

World AIDS Day is Dec. 1st and many schools have events to remind people that HIV is still a serious health problem and a worldwide pandemic. We challenge you, as educators, to continue to inform young people by participating in this HIV update and sharing this important information.

HIV and AIDS affect us all. Over 7,400 young adults between the ages of 15-24 years in the U.S. tested positive for HIV in 2008. The rate of HIV infection has not decreased in this country. Despite this news, schools in Maine have seen a significant decline in the level of HIV education that our middle and high school students reported receiving. Help us recommit to incorporating effective HIV education into health classes and across the curriculum.

**Participants are asked to pre-register at:** <http://www.maine.gov/education/hiv/trainings/index.html>. If you have questions, please contact Jody Leary at 624-6692 or [jody.leary@maine.gov](mailto:jody.leary@maine.gov). Contact hours will be provided, as requested. After the event, the recorded session and file attachments will be made available at: <http://www.maine.gov/education/hiv/resources.html>.

We hope that you will join us in viewing this important update!