



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
23 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
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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, January 26, 2012, 2:30-4 p.m.

DA: December 16, 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.

HIV is still a serious health problem and a worldwide pandemic. Over 8,200 young adults between the ages of 15-24 years in the U.S. tested positive for HIV in 2009. The rate of HIV infection has not decreased in this country. The primary risk factors for becoming infected include early age of sexual initiation, unprotected sex, and older sex partners. Evidence-based HIV prevention curricula have been proven to delay initiation of sex, as well as increase condom use for those youth who are sexually active. We challenge you, as educators, to continue to inform young people by participating in this HIV update and sharing this important information.

We are pleased that Sandra Putnam, BSN, RN, FNP, Psychiatric NP, will join 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.

Participants are asked to pre-register at: <http://www.maine.gov/education/hiv/trainings/index.html>.

If you have any questions, please contact Jody Leary at 624-6692 or 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!