PRE-EVENT SMALLPOX VACCINATION OPTIONS FOR HIV AND PREGNANCY TESTING

HIV Testing Options

You should be certain that you do not have HIV infection before being vaccinated against smallpox. Individuals with HIV infection are at increased risk for bad reactions from the smallpox vaccine. Please review the "Pre-Event Screening Worksheet for Smallpox Vaccine" found in your packet. If any of the HIV risk factors listed apply to you and you do not know your HIV status, you should be tested for HIV prior to receiving smallpox vaccine. Make sure to allow time to get your results back prior to the date of the vaccination clinic. Ways to obtain HIV testing include the following:

- Confidential HIV Counseling and Testing is available free of charge through any AIDS Prevention Center in the state (see list attached).
- Through your employer, if they have it available as part of this effort.
- Through your usual health care provider.

Other local options inclu	de:	

Pregnancy Testing Options

Women should be absolutely certain they are not pregnant before receiving smallpox vaccine and for four weeks following vaccination. If there is any chance you could be pregnant, then you should have a pregnancy test done before going to the smallpox vaccine clinic. Once you know you are not pregnant, you must use effective birth control (such as using the pill, condoms with spermicide, etc.) or avoid sexual relations with men from the time your pregnancy test is negative until 1 month after your vaccination. Ways to get a pregnancy test include the following:

- Pregnancy testing is available free of charge through state funded family planning providers (see list attached).
- You may do a home pregnancy test (available in most pharmacies or drug stores).
- Through your employer, if they have it available as part of this effort.
- Through your usual health care provider.