## ALPHA Network data specification: HIV tests



## **HIV** test data

- This dataset is for the results of HIV tests from research activities or clinic data
- If your site uses self reports of HIV status in your testing procedure you should include them here
- For example, if the respondent discloses they are positive and you then do not test them, you should include the positive result in this spec and you record this under source of test information=3 "self-reported by respondent".
- Sites that use the result of a recent test, carried out for research purposes shortly before the population based research study data collection(E.g. Kisumu and Rakai) should include both results
- once in "2 part of special research study" with test\_assumption as "0 new test"
- again in "1 part of a population based study" with test\_assumption as "test from previous study used.
- Sites whose protocol says "do not test if person has previously tested positive" should record as though there was a positive test done on the date of study and put the test\_assumption variable as "2 Previous positive HIV test used".

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Variable name	Description	Туре	Coding	Notes
idno	Person ID number	string	site specific	Numeric IDs long integer format, unique for an individual
study_name	Name of your study field site	string	site specific	Character – please be consistent across data sets
test_report_date	Date HIV test was reported	numeric (double)	in Stata format	
hiv_test_date	Date HIV test was carried out	numeric (double)	in Stata format	If test carried out in survey or study clinic date will be known exactly, if retrospectively reported by respondent may be approximated to mid-month or mid-year
hiv_test_result	HIV test result	numeric	0 negative 1 positive 2 indeterminate 3 not reported	indeterminate means test was part of study, but results were inconclusive; not reported means that participant said they had an HIV test outside of study setting but did not disclose result in interview. If participant says they do not know test result, code this as not reported, but only if your research study has no record of the result. If result is recorded in research study or clinic data base do not use not reported code.
informed_of_result	whether or not the participant was informed of test result	numeric	0 no 1 yes 8 Don't know/not asked	no codes typical for anonymised tests in sero-surveys; yes codes typical for VCT or PICT. It is possible for participant to say they were informed of result, even if they did not want to report it in survey interview.
source_of_test_information	Whether the test information comes from your research study, or part of a linked clinical record or self reported by respondent	numeric	1 part of a population based study 2. part of a special research study 3 clinical record- HIV clinic 4 self-reported by respondent 5 report by proxy respondent at VA 6 clinical record- walk in VCT 7 clinical record- PMTCT/ANC 8 clinical record- other	to distinguish between routine tests in surveys, extra tests in study clinics with results directly recorded in study data base, self disclosed results and results from VA proxy respondents

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Variable name	Description	Туре	Coding	Notes
test_assumption		numeric	0 New test 1 Test from previous study used 2 Previous positive HIV test used 3 self reported instead of testing (Kisumu)	Most sites will code all tests as "0" for this variable. Sites that do not test, in their population based study, someone who they have recently tested as part of a special study should code this variable as "1".  Those studies that do not test repeat positives should use code "2" here for people who were not tested because they were already tested and found positive in the past. It is essential that these codes are only used on people who participated in the study and did not refuse to test. Use them only for people who were not tested simply due to study protocol, as outlined above.
survey_round_name	if test was part of community survey name of round in which the data were collected	string	site specific	If the testing was done as part of a survey this variable should denote the name of the survey for example "sero1" or "TBSurvey2" etc it can be in string or numeric format.