

Example Language for Patient Disclosure

Dear Patient,

This letter is to inform you that on April 17, 2006 Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed into law Senate Bill 699 (Soto), requiring health care providers and laboratories to report cases of HIV infection by name to the local health department. Over 80 diseases are reportable by name to the local health department. Prior to April 17, 2006, reporting of HIV infection was unique in that it was reported by non-name code rather than by name.

SB 699 meets conditions set by the CDC for San Diego County and California to successfully compete for Ryan White CARE Act funds from the federal government for prevention services and care and treatment services. Under the new law, enhanced civil and criminal penalties will be imposed for willful, malicious, or negligent disclosures of confidential HIV case information. If you have additional questions, please call our office or ask your health care provider at your next visit.