



PUBLIC HEALTH

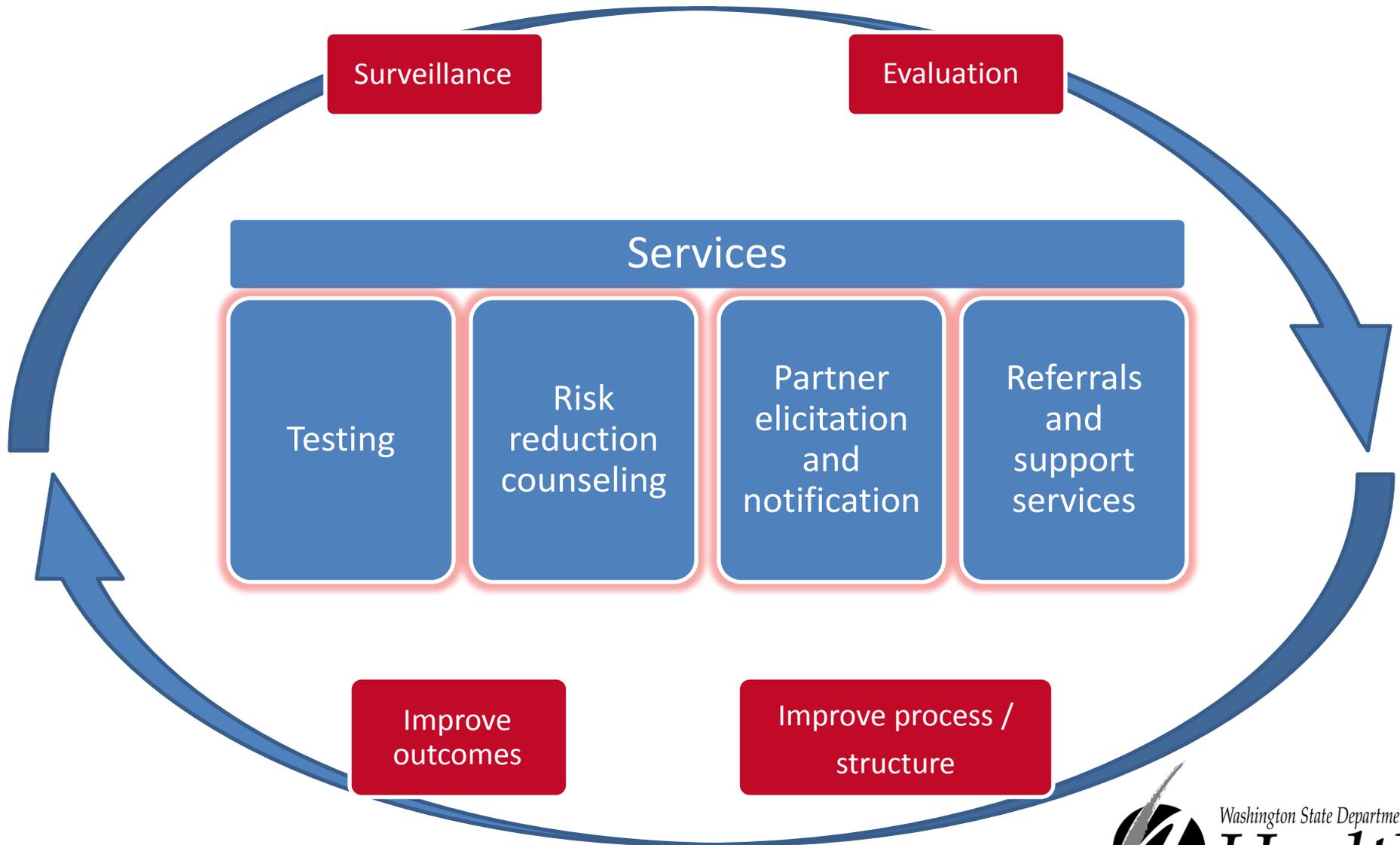
**ALWAYS WORKING FOR A SAFER AND
HEALTHIER WASHINGTON**

Elements of HIV Partner Services

Partner Services

Partner Services are part of a comprehensive array of services offered to HIV-infected persons and their partners. It should be fully integrated with those services, beginning when a client first receives HIV counseling and testing and continuing after the client enters care and treatment services.

Partner Services in Public Health System



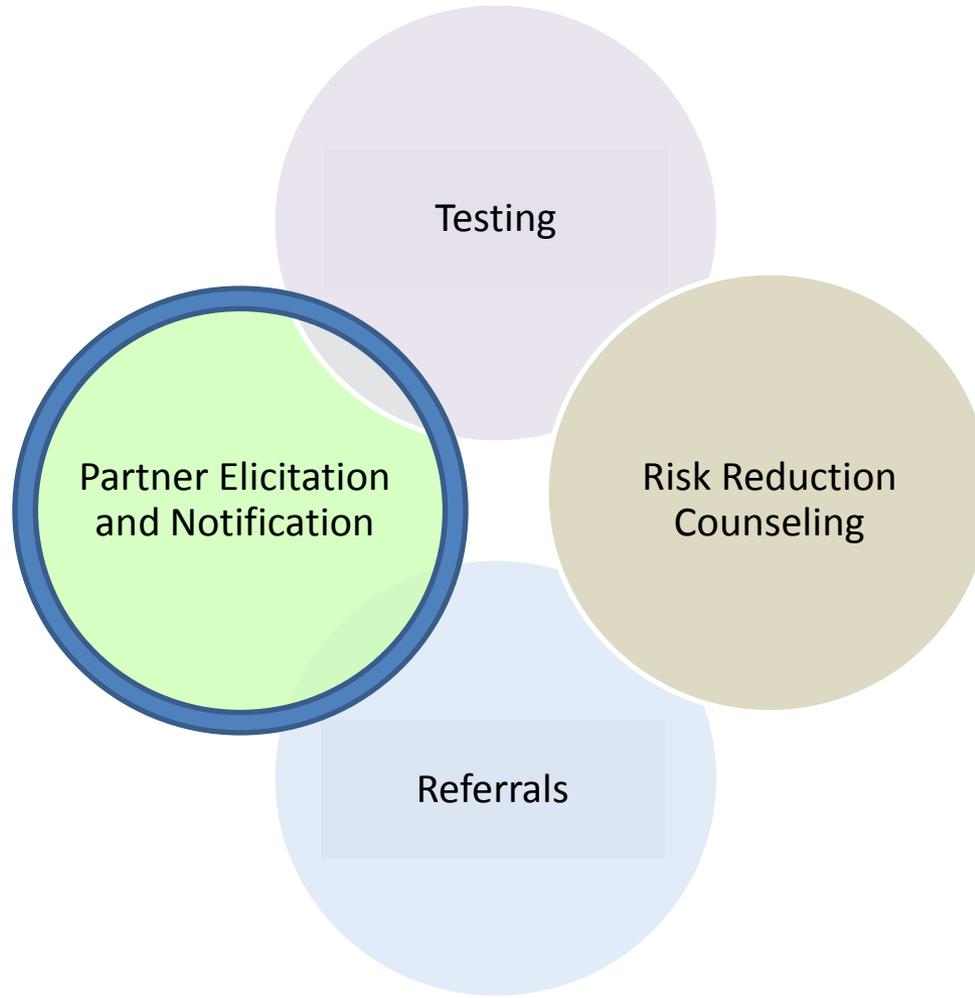
Partner Services Identifies New Cases

- Partners are encouraged to test and know their HIV status.
- CTR yields ~1 percent positivity rate
- PS yields a range of 3 to 15 percent positivity rate
- Private providers identify the most cases, but the rate is not available because we do not have the denominator

Partner Services as Prevention

- People often reduce their risk, or risk of HIV transmission to others, as a result of knowing their HIV status.
- Referring people to care results in a reduction of the overall community viral load.

Common Components of HIV Prevention Services



Provide HIV testing or referral to testing by licensed or authorized agency

Ensure Confidentiality 

Ensure the client understands that he / she is being tested for HIV

**HIV
Testing**

Document results and report accurately

Refer or link to care

Listen and reflect what you hear without judging

Ensure Confidentiality 

Challenge illogical or detrimental statements or beliefs

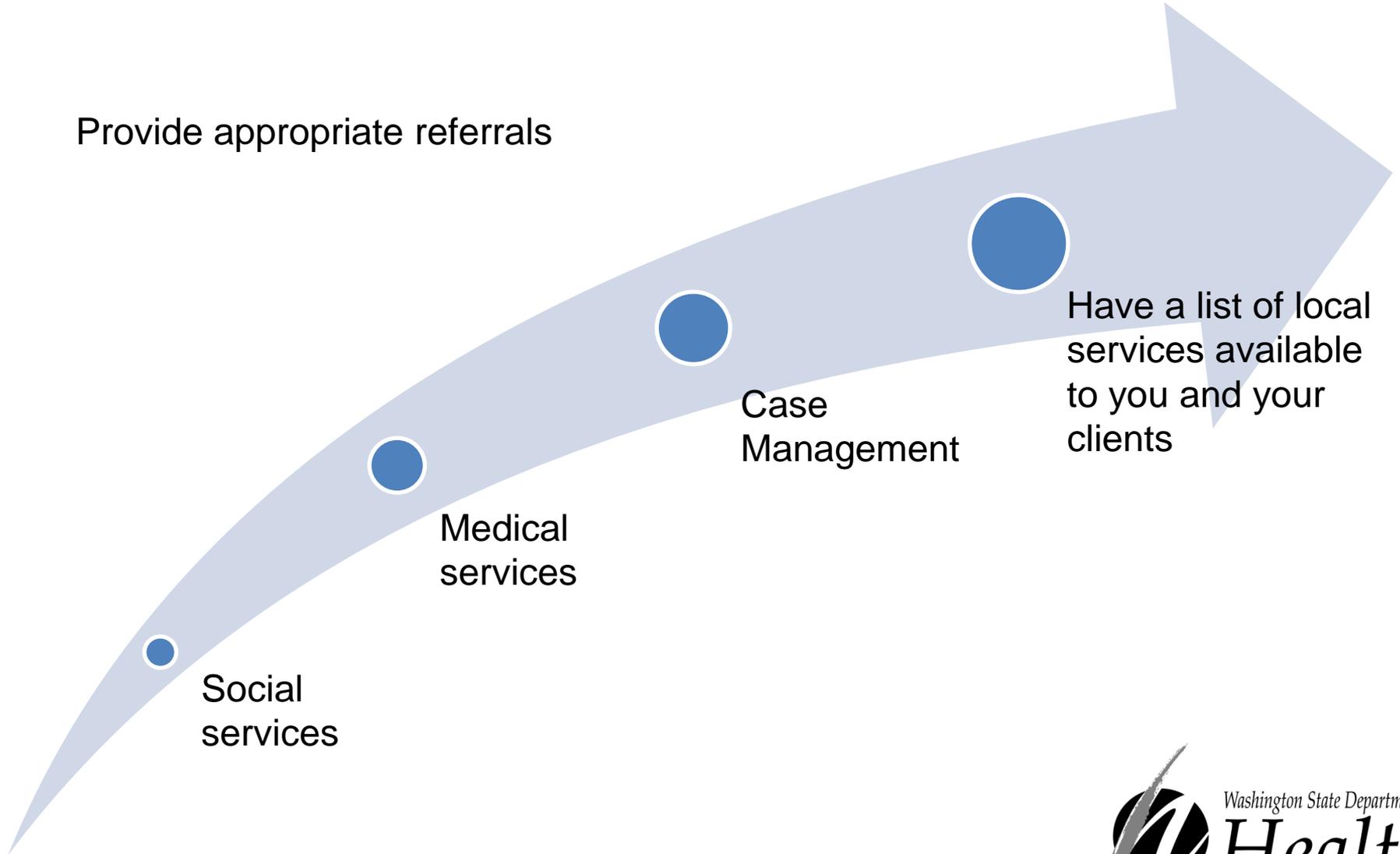
**Risk
reduction**

Facilitate client to identify risk

Facilitate client to plan risk reduction strategy and determine readiness or action

Referrals

Provide appropriate referrals



Social
services

Medical
services

Case
Management

Have a list of local
services available
to you and your
clients

Partner Elicitation and Notification

Critical functions of partner services are partner elicitation and notification, a process through which infected persons are interviewed to elicit information about their partners, who can then be confidentially notified of their possible exposure or potential risk.

Offer assistance in
notifying partners

Ensure Confidentiality 

Reinforce the importance
of notifying partners

**Partner
Elicitation**

Ask about circumstances,
events, partners

Ethical obligation to
not misinform partners, an
action that could harm them
– taking measures to protect
partners

Provide HIV testing or
referral to testing

Ensure Confidentiality 

Provide referrals to people
who discover they are HIV
positive through partner
services

Partner Notification

Be aware that persons
notified of exposure will
respond based on their
beliefs, experiences and
feelings

Discuss ethical obligation
to not misinform partners,
an action which could harm
them – taking measures to
protect partners

Meeting Performance Expectations

Service delivery

Delivering quality, timely partner services improves outcomes for HIV positive people and their partners

AND

helps protect public health.

Reporting

Reporting quality, timely information allows us to evaluate and improve services.

Timeliness

- Begin partner services within 48 hours of being notified of the need for services.
- Have partner services completed in 30 days from the day you are notified of the need for services.

Completeness

- Report partner services information as thoroughly and accurately as possible as you complete your partner services work.

Training

- PCRS training provided by the California STD / HIV Training Center is required of workers who provide partner services for contracted agencies.
- Participation in ongoing capacity building activities like technical assistance or collaboration is required.

Communication

- Communicate with prevention workers in your program or in other jurisdictions (including DOH) as needed to deliver partner services collaboratively.

Resource

Recommendations for Partner Services Programs for HIV Infection, Syphilis, Gonorrhea, and Chlamydial Infection MMWR 2008

- <http://www.cdc.gov/nchhstp/partners/Recommendations.html>

Contact Information

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