Broward County in Florida Halts Rapid HIV Tests in Jails

November 13, 2013

The Broward County Health Department in Florida has discontinued its rapid HIV test program for inmates, the Sun Sentinel reports. A department spokesperson said the rate of positive results wasn't high enough to continue the program. Jail officials are looking for another provider of rapid tests, which give results in 15 minutes. Until then, they are offering inmates conventional HIV tests with results usually within 24 to 48 hours. Advocates argue that rapid tests are more effective for jails because about half of the population leaves within 48 hours. Although inmates can obtain results after they are released, many do not bother with finding out the results after they get back home.

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