

HTLV-1 infection Counseling

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Counseling HTLV-1 infected persons



- ❖ Education and support to HTLV-1 positive individuals should be provided to help them maintain their physical and emotional health and reduce their likelihood of infecting others.
- Level of schooling should be considered and information provided accordingly. It is not advisable to give more information than demanded by the patient in order to prevent additional stress and misunderstanding.
- Psychological and/or psychiatric care should be provided for extremely anxious or depressed donors, who have frequently experienced previous emotional disorders.
- Patients with stable partners should receive joint counseling if so desired.

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Counseling HTLV-1 infected persons

- 1. HTLV-1 positive individuals should be told that it is an infection with a clustering distribution in the world including Iran.
- 2. They should be told that HTLV-1 is not the AIDS virus, AIDS is caused by a different virus called HIV.
- 3. They should be given information regarding modes and efficiency of transmission.
- 4. They should be told that HTLV-1 is a lifelong infection.
- 5. They should be given information regarding disease associations and the probability of developing disease
- 6. They should be given information regarding modes of prevention.

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Prevention of sexual-transmmitted HTLV-1

- ❖ Persons with multiple sexual partners: Use of latex condoms
- Persons with a monogamic stable relationship: Test the partner for HTLV and use condom if the partner is sero-negative
- ❖ Couples wishing to have children: aware of a finite risk for sexual transmission during attempts at pregnancy, and of a small risk for transmission from mother to infant unrelated to breast-feeding

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