

DIS Reporting Guidelines:

HIV clusters can be identified in three ways: molecular clusters, time space clusters, and DIS/provider identified clusters. Local and regional health departments or local providers may notice a sudden spike in new diagnoses that is higher than normal for their area. These clusters may be identified by sites noticing a large number of connected cases in their "lot" books. Sites may flag this spike for further analysis at central office. Sites should send an email to hivstd@dshs.texas.gov, if they are seeing an increase in diagnoses and that they will be tasking the event IDs in THISIS. Sites should then send a task with the event IDs to your surveillance or public health follow up consultant with a note to pass along to the Cluster Detection and Response team. Upon further analysis, if these connected cases result in a cluster, central office will notify the site about next steps.