

TITLE 39  
HEALTH AND SAFETY

CHAPTER 6  
CONTROL OF VENEREAL DISEASES

39-601. VENEREAL DISEASES ENUMERATED. Syphilis, gonorrhea, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), chlamydia and hepatitis B virus (HBV), hereinafter designated as venereal diseases, are hereby declared to be contagious, infectious, communicable and dangerous to public health; and it shall be unlawful for anyone infected with these diseases or any of them to knowingly expose another person to the infection of such diseases.

[ (39-601) 1921, ch. 200, secs. 1, 6, p. 406; I.C.A., sec. 38-501; am. 1945, ch. 52, sec. 1, p. 67; am. 1986, ch. 70, sec. 1, p. 195; am. 1988, ch. 45, sec. 1, p. 51; am. 1990, ch. 143, sec. 1, p. 322; am. 2012, ch. 311, sec. 1, p. 858.]

39-601A. POLICY ON EXPENDITURES. It is the intent of the legislature that governmental authorities shall be required to provide those services authorized or mandated by law for treatment or testing for the diseases enumerated in section [39-601](#), Idaho Code, only to the extent of funding and available resources appropriated.

[39-601A, added 1988, ch. 45, sec. 2, p. 51.]

39-602. REPORT OF VENEREAL DISEASE TO HEALTH AUTHORITIES. Any physician or other person who makes a diagnosis of or treats a case of venereal disease, and any superintendent or manager of a hospital, dispensary or charitable or penal institution, in which there is a case of venereal disease, shall immediately make a report of such case to the department of health and welfare, according to such form and manner as the state board of health and welfare shall direct.

[ (39-602) 1921, ch. 200, sec. 2, p. 406; I.C.A., sec. 38-502; am. 1974, ch. 23, sec. 95, p. 633; am. 1990, ch. 143, sec. 2, p. 322.]

39-603. EXAMINATION, TREATMENT, AND QUARANTINE -- REPRESSION OF PROSTITUTION. State, county and municipal health officers, or their authorized deputies, within their respective jurisdiction, are hereby directed and empowered, when in their judgment it is necessary to protect the public health, to make examinations, or have examinations made by competent physician, of persons reasonably suspected of being infected with venereal disease, and to require persons infected with venereal disease to report for treatment to a reputable physician and continue treatment until cured, or to submit to treatment provided at public expense until cured, and also, when in their judgment it is necessary to protect the public health, to isolate or quarantine persons affected with venereal disease. It shall be the duty of all local and state health officers to investigate sources of infection of venereal diseases, to cooperate with the proper officials whose duty it is to enforce laws directed against prostitution, and otherwise to use every proper means for the repression of prostitution.

[ (39-603) 1921, ch. 200, sec. 3, p. 406; I.C.A., sec. 38-503.]

39-604. CONFINED AND IMPRISONED PERSONS -- EXAMINATION, TREATMENT, AND QUARANTINE -- VICTIMS OF SEXUAL OFFENSES -- ACCESS TO OFFENDERS' TEST RESULTS, TESTING FOR HIV, COUNSELING AND REFERRAL SERVICES. (1) All persons who shall be confined or imprisoned in any state prison facility in this state shall be examined for on admission, and again upon the offender's request before release, and, if infected, treated for the diseases enumerated in section [39-601](#), Idaho Code, and this examination shall include a test for HIV antibodies or antigens. This examination is not intended to limit any usual or customary medical examinations that might be indicated during a person's imprisonment. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to interfere with the service of any sentence imposed by a court as a punishment for the commission of crime. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to impose upon any state prison facility an obligation to continue to treat a person who tested positive for any disease enumerated in section [39-601](#), Idaho Code, or be financially responsible for such treatment after the person is released from the state prison facility.

(2) All persons who shall be confined in any county or city jail may be examined for and, if infected, treated for the venereal diseases enumerated in section [39-601](#), Idaho Code, if such persons have, in the judgment of public health authorities or the jailer, been exposed to a disease enumerated in section [39-601](#), Idaho Code.

(3) All persons who are charged with any sex offense in which body fluid, as defined in this chapter, has likely been transmitted to another shall be tested for the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). At the request of the victim or parent, guardian or legal custodian of a minor victim, such test shall be administered not later than forty-eight (48) hours after the date on which the information or indictment is presented.

(4) All persons, including juveniles, who are charged with sex offenses, prostitution, any crime in which body fluid has likely been transmitted to another, or other charges as recommended by public health authorities shall be tested for the venereal diseases enumerated in section [39-601](#), Idaho Code, and for hepatitis C virus.

(5) All persons who are charged with any crime involving the use of injectable drugs shall be tested for the presence of HIV antibodies or antigens, for hepatitis C virus and for hepatitis B virus.

(6) If a person is tested as required in subsection (3), (4) or (5) of this section, the results of the test shall be revealed to the court. The court shall release the results of the test to the victim(s), or if the victim(s) is a minor, to the minor's parent, guardian or legal custodian. Whenever a prisoner tests positive for HIV antibodies or antigens, the victim(s) of said prisoner shall be entitled to counseling regarding HIV, HIV testing in accordance with applicable law, and referral for appropriate health care and support services. Said counseling, HIV testing and referral services shall be provided to the victim(s) by the district health departments at no charge to the victim(s). Provided however, the requirement to provide referral services does not, in and of itself, obligate the district health departments to provide or otherwise pay for a victim's health care or support services. Any court, when releasing test results to a victim(s), or if the victim(s) is a minor, to the minor's parent, guardian, or legal custodian, shall explain or otherwise make the victim(s) or the victim's parent, guardian, or legal custodian, aware of the services to which the victim(s) is entitled as described herein.

(7) Responsibility for the examination, testing and treatment of persons confined in county or city jails shall be vested in the county or city that operates the jail. The county or city may contract with the district health departments or make other arrangements for the examination, testing and treatment services. The district health department or other provider may charge and collect for the costs of such examination and treatment, as follows:

(a) When the prisoner is a convicted felon awaiting transfer to the board of correction, or when the prisoner is a convicted felon being confined in jail pursuant to a contract with the board of correction, the board of correction shall reimburse such costs;

(b) When the prisoner is awaiting trial after an arrest by any state officer, the state agency employing such arresting officer shall reimburse such costs;

(c) When the prisoner is being held for any other authority or jurisdiction, including another state, the authority or jurisdiction responsible shall reimburse such costs unless otherwise provided for by contract.

[(39-604) 1921, ch. 200, sec. 4, p. 406; I.C.A., sec. 38-504; am. 1974, ch. 23, sec. 96, p. 633; am. 1988, ch. 45, sec. 3, p. 51; am. 1989, ch. 220, sec. 1, p. 536; am. 1990, ch. 310, sec. 1, p. 850; am. 1993, ch. 19, sec. 1, p. 71; am. 1994, ch. 408, sec. 1, p. 1278; am. 1999, ch. 323, sec. 1, p. 831; am. 2011, ch. 70, sec. 1, p. 148; am. 2012, ch. 311, sec. 2, p. 858; am. 2013, ch. 209, sec. 1, p. 498.]

39-605. RULES FOR CARRYING OUT LAW. The state board of health and welfare is hereby empowered and directed to make such rules as shall, in its judgment, be necessary for the carrying out of the provisions of this chapter, including rules providing for the control and treatment of persons isolated or quarantined under the provisions of section [39-603](#), Idaho Code, and such other rules, not in conflict with provisions of this chapter, concerning the control of venereal diseases, and concerning the care, treatment and quarantine of persons infected therewith, as it may from time to time deem advisable. All such rules so made shall be of force and binding upon all county and municipal health officers and other persons affected by this chapter, and shall have the force and effect of law. Such rules may be amended from time to time by the state board of health and welfare. All rules must be entered on the minutes of the state board of health and welfare and copies shall be furnished to all county and municipal health officers and to anyone else who may apply for same. Such rules shall be adopted and become effective in accordance with the provisions of [chapter 52, title 67](#), Idaho Code.

[(39-605) 1921, ch. 200, sec. 5, p. 406; I.C.A., sec. 38-505; am. 1974, ch. 23, sec. 97, p. 633; am. 1993, ch. 216, sec. 24, p. 607.]

39-606. REPORTS. Reports to the director of the department of health and welfare of the existence of diseases included in this chapter shall be made by the name of the patient being treated for such disease. It is the intent of this chapter to observe all possible secrecy for the benefit of the sufferer so long as the said sufferer conforms to the requirements of this chapter. Confidential disease reports containing patient identification reported under this section shall only be used by public health offi-

cials who must conduct investigations and shall be subject to disclosure according to [chapter 1, title 74](#), Idaho Code. Any person who willfully or maliciously discloses the content of any confidential public health record, as described herein to any third party, except pursuant to a written authorization by the person who is the subject of the record or by his or her guardian or conservator, or as otherwise authorized by law, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

[(39-606) 1921, ch. 200, sec. 7, p. 406; I.C.A., sec. 38-506; am. 1974, ch. 23, sec. 98, p. 633; am. 1987, ch. 222, sec. 1, p. 475; am. 1990, ch. 213, sec. 38, p. 513; am. 2015, ch. 141, sec. 84, p. 440.]

39-607. PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS. Any person who shall violate any lawful rule or regulation made by the state board of health and welfare, pursuant to the authority herein granted, or who shall fail or refuse to obey any lawful order issued by any public health authority, pursuant to the authority granted in this chapter, or any person who, knowing that he or she is infected with syphilis, gonorrhea or chancroid, exposes another person to the infection of such disease, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be punished, on conviction thereof, by a fine of not more than three hundred dollars (\$300) or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than six (6) months; or by both such fine and imprisonment.

[(39-607) 1921, ch. 200, sec. 8, p. 406; I.C.A., sec. 38-507; am. 1945, ch. 55, sec. 1, p. 71; am. 1974, ch. 23, sec. 99, p. 633; am. 1988, ch. 45, sec. 4, p. 52.]

39-608. TRANSFER OF BODY FLUID WHICH MAY CONTAIN THE HIV VIRUS -- PUNISHMENT -- DEFINITIONS -- DEFENSES. (1) Any person who exposes another in any manner with the intent to infect or, knowing that he or she is or has been afflicted with acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), AIDS related complexes (ARC), or other manifestations of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection, transfers or attempts to transfer any of his or her body fluid, body tissue or organs to another person is guilty of a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for a period not to exceed fifteen (15) years, by fine not in excess of five thousand dollars (\$5,000), or by both such imprisonment and fine.

(2) Definitions. As used in this section:

(a) "Body fluid" means semen (irrespective of the presence of spermatozoa), blood, saliva, vaginal secretion, breast milk, and urine.

(b) "Transfer" means engaging in sexual activity by genital-genital contact, oral-genital contact, anal-genital contact; or permitting the use of a hypodermic syringe, needle, or similar device without sterilization; or giving, whether or not for value, blood, semen, body tissue, or organs to a person, blood bank, hospital, or other medical care facility for purposes of transfer to another person.

(3) Defenses:

(a) Consent. It is an affirmative defense that the sexual activity took place between consenting adults after full disclosure by the accused of the risk of such activity.

(b) Medical advice. It is an affirmative defense that the transfer of body fluid, body tissue, or organs occurred after advice from a licensed physician that the accused was noninfectious.

[39-608, added 1988, ch. 151, sec. 1, p. 271.]

39-609. DECLARATION OF POLICY. The legislature hereby declares that infection with human immunodeficiency virus, the virus which causes acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), is an infectious and communicable disease that endangers the population of this state. The legislature further declares that reporting of HIV infection to public health officials is essential to enable a better understanding of the disease, the scope of exposure, the impact on the community, and the means of control and that efforts to control the disease should include public education, counseling, and voluntary testing and that restrictive enforcement measures should be used only when necessary to protect the public health. It is hereby declared to be the policy of this state that an effective program of preventing AIDS must maintain the confidentiality of patient information and restrict the use of such information solely to public health requirements. This confidentiality is essential so that infected persons are encouraged to reveal their condition to persons who have a legitimate need to know in order that they may assist the patient. Conversely, there is a need for certain individuals to know of the patient's condition so that they may be protected from the disease or protect themselves and others closely associated with them or with the patient. The legislature believes that the balancing of the need to know by certain individuals in relationship to the need to maintain confidentiality to encourage reporting is essential to control the spread of the disease. This balancing cannot be fully codified in statutory law and must be left to the judgment and discretion of public health officials. If in the judgment of public health authorities an imminent danger to the public health exists due to an individual having a disease enumerated in section [39-601](#), Idaho Code, public health authorities shall take such action as is authorized in this chapter and as is necessary to prevent danger to the public health. Persons who have a legitimate need to know may include health care personnel, doctors, nurses, dentists, persons providing emergency medical services, morticians, lab technicians and school authorities. This is not intended to limit the usual and customary exchange of information between health care providers.

[39-609, added 1988, ch. 45, sec. 5, p. 52; am. 1990, ch. 143, sec. 3, p. 322.]

39-610. DISCLOSURE OF HIV AND HBV REPORTING INFORMATION. (1) Confidential public health record as described in section [39-606](#), Idaho Code, shall be subject to disclosure according to [chapter 1, title 74](#), Idaho Code, shall not be discoverable, and shall not be compelled to be produced in any civil or administrative hearing.

(2) State or local health authorities may contact and advise those persons who, in the judgment of health authorities, have been exposed to the HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) or hepatitis B (HBV) infections.

(3) The department of health and welfare shall, in a manner established by rules and regulations, accept from persons involved in providing emergency or medical services reports of significant exposures to the blood or body fluids of a patient or deceased person. The department of health and welfare shall promulgate rules and regulations defining the term "significant exposure" as used in this section. Upon receipt of a report made pursuant to section [39-602](#), Idaho Code, confirming the presence of HIV or HBV virus in a patient or a deceased person, the director of the department of

health and welfare, or his designee, shall immediately contact and advise any and all persons who, on the basis of information then or thereafter reported to the department, have had a significant exposure to the blood or body fluids of that infected patient or deceased person. The significantly exposed person shall be informed only that he may have been exposed to HIV or HBV, as the case may be, and thereafter advised of whatever prophylactic and testing procedures are appropriate. The significantly exposed person shall not be informed of the name of the infected patient or deceased person. Additionally, the department of health and welfare shall, to the greatest extent consistent with public health requirements, maintain the confidentiality of the identity of the significantly exposed person.

(4) Public health authorities may disclose personally identifying information in public health records, as described in section [39-606](#), Idaho Code, to other local or state public health agencies when the confidential information is necessary to carry out the duties of the agency in the investigation, control and surveillance of disease, as determined by the state board of health and welfare, or as otherwise authorized by law.

(5) Nothing in this chapter imposes liability or criminal sanction for disclosure or nondisclosure of the results of a blood test to detect HIV or HBV virus in accordance with any reporting requirements of the department of health and welfare.

[39-610, added 1988, ch. 45, sec. 6, p. 53; am. 1990, ch. 143, sec. 4, p. 323; am. 1990, ch. 213, sec. 39, p. 513; am. 2015, ch. 141, sec. 85, p. 440.]