



**June 2015**

**What a week it has been!** This week, the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) ruled to **uphold health insurance subsidies** in states using the federal exchange under the Affordable Care Act (ACA), thereby preserving coverage for millions of Americans nationwide. Just this morning, SCOTUS **ruled in favor of marriage equality for all**. ANAC lauds both decisions as they advance equality for all and ensure that all people have access to affordable health care and all of the rights afforded through marriage. We invite you to follow our coverage of the decisions on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

This week is also [National HIV Testing Week](#), culminating tomorrow with [National HIV Testing Day](#). It was 30 years ago that the ELISA assay was FDA approved, and we have come a long way since then.

Still, there is work to be done. Each year, 50,000 people are newly diagnosed with HIV and too many have low CD4 counts and AIDS defining illnesses. Normalizing HIV testing is a step in changing the course of the epidemic, and HIV testing should be part of routine screening for many people. The recent [START study results](#) affirm that early initiation of treatment has substantial benefits.

Frequent HIV testing is no longer a failure in prevention, it is a key to effective prevention and an opportunity to discuss and consider PrEP and other risk reduction strategies in those testing negative. In some settings and areas, this must become part of the provider/patient dialogue - a dialogue that should be open, non-judgmental and occur often. As part of [National HIV Testing Week](#), [aidsvu.org](#) has released interactive on-line updated maps of prevalence, new diagnosis, demographics, social determinants and other critical information. [View the reality of HIV in your community](#) and in other communities most affected by HIV/AIDS to better understand HIV where you live.

**Nurses can help to bend the curve of new infections.** Patients and communities look to us for information and guidance. Let's get the message out about HIV testing and the good it can do now. Let others know - things have changed a lot in 30 years.