

65-6004. Physician authorized to disclose to certain persons information about patient who has infectious disease or who has had laboratory confirmation of a positive reaction to an infectious disease test; confidentiality of information; immunity in judicial proceedings. (a) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, a physician performing medical or surgical procedures on a patient who the physician knows has an infectious disease or has had laboratory confirmation of a positive reaction to an infectious disease test may disclose such information to other health care providers, emergency services employees, corrections officers or law enforcement employees who have been or will be placed in contact with body fluids of such patient. The information shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed by such health care providers, emergency services employees, corrections officers or law enforcement employees except as may be necessary in providing treatment for such patient.

(b) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, a physician who has reason to believe that the spouse or partner of a person who has had laboratory confirmation of HIV infection or who has AIDS may have been exposed to HIV and is unaware of such exposure may inform the spouse or partner of the risk of exposure. The information shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed by such spouse or partner to other persons except to the spouse or partner who has had laboratory confirmation of HIV infection or who has AIDS.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to create a duty to warn any person of possible exposure to HIV.

(d) Any physician who discloses or fails to disclose information in accordance with the provisions of this section in good faith and without malice shall have immunity from any liability, civil or criminal, that might otherwise be incurred or imposed in an action resulting from such disclosure. Any such physician shall have the same immunity with respect to participation in any judicial proceeding resulting from such disclosure.

History: L. 1988, ch. 232, § 4; L. 1990, ch. 234, § 3; L. 1993, ch. 221, § 1; L. 1996, ch. 215, § 2; L. 1999, ch. 109, § 4; July 1.