# Taking the HIV test: why? / Camden & Islington Gay Men's Team; illustration by Mark Blann.

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# TAKING THE HIUTEST



WHY?

in PEOPLE WITH HIV who DIED between 1998 and 2000 in

London HAD ONLY FOUND OUT THEY WERE HIV-POSITIVE less than three months before their DEATH.







## ALL ABOUT HIV+

1 in 5 people with HIV who died between 1998 and 2000 in London had only found out they were HIV-positive less than three months before their death. This means that they were so ill when they got their diagnosis that it was too late for medication to be of benefit. Some people die from HIV illness without even knowing that they are HIV-positive.\*

The majority of people admitted to hospital with AIDS-related illness did not know they were HIV-positive until they fell ill.\*\*

If you take the HIV test and the result is negative, it will set your mind at rest — you will know that you have not been infected with HIV.

Buy condoms and lube at great prices online at...



urce: Modernising HIV Services in Lo surce: aidsmap (www.aidsmap.com)

www.metromate.org.uk Metro

This is one of a series of six postcards adapted from an exhibition entitled ALL ABOUT  $\rm HIV^+$ , which was produced by Camden & Islington Gay Men's Team. For more details phone 020 7530 3911

The illustration overleaf, by Mark Blann, is a stylised representation of an HIV antibody. Antibodies are special proteins in the bloodstream which are tailored to fight a specific virus or other infection.