Should patients be compelled to undergo HIV testing . . .

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sion of drug-resistant HIV after an occupational exposure despite
postexposure prophylaxis with a combination drug regimen. Infect
20. Public Health Service. Updated U.S. Public Health Service
guidelines for the management of occupational exposures to HBV,
HCV, and HIV and recommendations for postexposure prophylaxis.

Morning Rounds

“Good morning,” I said.
“Come closer,” she asked.
I did not, could not,
and stood in the doorway.
“Do you need anything?”
“Come closer,” she said.
I am close, I thought.
The room was small, filled by her bed.
“I mean near the bed—next to me—
so I can see you.”
I moved closer, foreseeing her death,
which I could not prevent.

“I like it when you are close.”
I moved even closer,
reaching for her hand.
“That’s what I needed,
to touch your hand and to thank you.”
She smiled, her face aglow,
and I wept silently
as I moved even closer
to kiss her cheek
to thank her
for asking me to come closer
when I thought I could not.

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