§ 2776. Powers and duties. 1. The institute shall have the following powers and duties:

(a) to develop and promote scientific investigations into the cause, prevention, methods of treatment, and cure of the acquired diseases of immunosuppression;

(b) to develop and promote programs of professional education and training and improvements in instrumentation as necessary adjuncts to such scientific investigations;

(c) to develop and maintain a clearing house within the department for information collected on acquired immune deficiency syndrome, including a catalogue of the existing medical literature and the results of existing epidemiological studies;

(d) to develop and promote an outreach campaign directed toward targeted high risk populations to provide coordinated information regarding the treatment and counseling programs and sources of financial assistance available; and

(e) to promote the availability of supportive services for affected persons.

2. Personal data in any investigations, reports and information relating thereto shall be kept confidential and be afforded all of the protections provided by the provisions of paragraph (j) of subdivision one of section two hundred six of the public health law. The institute may, however, from time to time publish analyses of such scientific investigations in such a manner as to assure that the identities of the individuals concerned cannot be ascertained.