

	Home Testing	Home Sampling	Clinical Settings (excluding private clinics)
<b>How easy is it to get an approved test?</b> <i>(Availability)</i>	Unclear at present  In the future: potentially from commercial organisations and Clinics or NGOs	Online, from commercial and not-for-profit organisations – also from gay venues as part of specific interventions	GUM clinics  Point of Care testing (PoC) such as gym, gay venues, community events...
<b>Have the testing kits been approved by the medical authority to ensure they work and are acceptably safe?</b> <i>(Devices need to be approved by the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency, MHRA)</i>	None approved in the UK or EU yet  Approval will be country specific Mechanism not yet defined  The FDA (US equivalent of the MHRA) has approved <u>one</u> home testing kit for the first time in 2012	Approved by regulator  Testing kits allow user to provide a biological sample  Tests are conducted by qualified staff in a controlled environment	Approved by regulator  Sampling and testing are conducted by qualified staff in a controlled environment
<b>What body fluid is used?</b> <i>(Biological fluid sampling)</i>	Saliva (US approved OraQuick Advance) In the future: blood from finger prick	Saliva Blood from a finger prick	Blood Blood/Saliva (PoC)
<b>What does the test look for?</b> <i>(Part of the virus i.e. viral protein, response from the body i.e. antibodies)</i>	Antibodies against HIV	Antibodies against HIV and/or HIV protein.	Antibodies against HIV and/or HIV protein.  If positive confirmation by PCR detection of the virus components
<b>How soon after an infection can the test detect the infection?</b> <i>(Window period)</i>	3 months	1 month (4 <sup>th</sup> generation test) to 3 months (3 <sup>rd</sup> generation test)	1 month (4 <sup>th</sup> generation test) to 3 months (3 <sup>rd</sup> generation test)
<b>How good is the test at detecting an HIV infection?</b> <i>(Accuracy, sensitivity, specificity)</i>	86.6% correct positive results US approved OraQuick Advance	90 – 95% correct positive results (Dr Thom sampling - saliva) 100% correct positive results (THT home sampling study– blood)	99.9% correct positive results for 4 <sup>th</sup> generation test at 3 months
<b>How long does it take to get a result?</b>	20-40 minutes	3 days to 2 weeks	20 minutes (PoC) to 2 weeks
<b>What support is offered to help people testing positive access NHS care?</b> <i>(Linkage to care)</i>	Unclear at present	People testing positive are contacted by phone. This provides an opportunity to link positive to care	Entry into care is facilitated by the proximity of care services
<b>What kind of health support is provided alongside HIV testing?</b>	Unclear at present	Support available online or by phone	Comprehensive on-site health support and counselling (including sexual, drug use and mental health support)  Testing for other STIs
<b>Cost</b>	Unknown. No plans for being freely available on the NHS (to date)	From free to £40+	Free

