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Publishing Title: Can We Ever Expect to Have Individuals Perform Their Own HIV Rapid Tests?

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Abstract Body: **Background:** More individuals need to be HIV tested. We evaluated the acceptability and accuracy of point-of-care (POC) HIV tests performed by untrained patients in an urban emergency department (ED) and compared results to those of health care workers (HCW).

Methods: Patients 18-64 yr. without a HIV diagnosis, who had a standard-of-care OraQuick Advance POC HIV test performed by healthcare workers, were eligible. Patients chose OraQuick Advance (oral fluid) or Trinity Unigold (fingerstick). Evaluation was by questionnaire. Testing was performed in the ED. Participants obtained their own samples and used visual instruction templates. Results were compared to lab results.

Results: 246 patients, who received the OraQuick HIV test, were approached; 218 (89%) participated; 92% chose OraQuick and 8% chose Uni-Gold ($p < 0.05$). Self-test results were almost 100% concordant with HCW test results. Two results initially differed. For patients using the oral test, median age was 40 yr., 59% were female, 81% were Black and 19% were White. For the fingerstick group, median age was 37 yr.; 39% were female, 83% were Black and 11% were White. Trust: 86% of patients in the oral group and 94% of patients in the blood group trusted the self-test result "very much". Results by the healthcare worker were trusted "very much" by 88% and 78% of patients in the oral and fingerstick group, respectively. Collection: 96% of participants in the oral group reported oral fluid "not at all hard to collect" while 78% stated fingerstick blood was "not at all hard to collect". 97% of participants in the oral and 100% in the fingerstick group reported they would "definitely" or "probably recommend" self-testing to a friend, whereas 97% and 94% respectively would "probably" or "definitely" perform a test at home if available.

Conclusion: A significant proportion of patients offered self-HIV testing in the ED volunteered, and preferred to use oral fluid for self-testing; results of self-testing were concordant with those obtained by healthcare workers; the majority trusted their results and would use a home POC HIV test.

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