

<p><b>What is HIV self-testing?</b></p>	<p>HIV self-testing is a process whereby an individual performs their own HIV test via an oral swab. The purpose of this program is to reach populations who face barriers in accessing HIV testing services or who are not testing via other means, to reduce stigma, and to ultimately increase the number of persons living with HIV who are identified and initiated into treatment. HIV self-testing also provides an opportunity to facilitate linkage to HIV prevention services for those who test negative. At this time (only) oral swabs are offered for HIV self-testing free of cost to those who qualify.</p>
<p><b>What are the priority populations for HIV self-testing?</b></p>	<p>Eligible priority populations for HIV self-testing include the following groups disproportionately impacted by HIV: men who have sex with other men, transmen, transwomen, members of the LGBTQ+ community, gender non-conforming and non-binary persons, persons who identify as Hispanic/Latinx or Black/African Ancestry, and persons who inject drugs.</p>
<p><b>Who is <u>eligible</u> for an HIV self-test kit?</b></p>	<p>A person must (1) live or work in the County, (2) be 17+ years of age , and (3) identify as a member of at least one of the priority populations for HIV self-testing in order to be eligible to receive a self-test kit. The Santa Clara County Public Health Department designed a survey tool to determine eligibility for all persons interested in obtaining an HIV self-test kit.</p>
<p><b>How will someone receive an HIV self-test kit?</b></p>	<p>Clients must first complete an initial survey to determine eligibility, and for those meeting eligibility criteria, clients will provide additional information pertaining to demographics, risk factors, name and mailing address. Once Public Health Department staff receive completed survey responses, eligible clients will be shipped an HIV self-test kit to their mailing address. One-month after receiving their test kit, clients will receive a post-survey on their experience, need for additional public health services, and voluntary reporting of their test result.</p> <p>There is also an option to opt into a mailing list to receive a self-test kit once every three months. Clients can remove themselves from the mailing list or change their address any time.</p> <p>See survey link here:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">HIV Self-Testing Pre-Survey</a></li></ul>

<p><b>How is the survey tool structured?</b></p>	<p>First, clients complete a pre-screening to determine eligibility. If eligible, client completes the main portion of the survey that captures demographic information, risk factors and mailing address. Clients are required to answer all mandatory questions and can opt out of the optional questions. Clients will receive a 1-month post-survey via email to ask if they received the test and their result. Those with a positive result will be provided information to contact a member of our Positive Connections team, who will work with the client to schedule additional testing to confirm the HIV result.</p>
<p><b>Are the surveys required?</b></p>	<p>The pre-survey is required and the post-survey is voluntary. Completion of both the pre and post-surveys is useful to link people to care and to ensure we don't receive too many missing responses or feedback. As such, we recommend that clients fully complete both surveys.</p>
<p><b>How will clients learn about HIV self-testing?</b></p>	<p>Clients might hear of the HIV Self-Testing Program through the Getting to Zero listserv, Getting to Zero website, community-based organizations, and from STD/HIV Prevention &amp; Control program staff. The survey link is located on the PHD STD/HIV Prevention &amp; Control's testing website (<a href="http://www.gettestedsc.org">www.gettestedsc.org</a>), and/or card with a QR code linked to the survey if distributed at an outreach event.</p>
<p><b>What items are included with the HIV self-test kits?</b></p>	<p>Clients will receive the following items with the HIV self-test kit: information with contact information to the Positive Connections team, PrEP Navigation Services phone number for those interested in PrEP, Crane Center Business Card and Brochure, and PrEP Brochure. The HIV self-test kit itself comes with instructions on performing the test, an informational booklet on HIV and testing, and a package insert containing additional information about the test.</p>
<p><b>Who will monitor the program?</b></p>	<p>The STD/HIV Prevention &amp; Control Program's Getting to Zero program will monitor and manage the HIV self-testing program including handling client inquiries.</p>
<p><b>Where can I find more information?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Public Health Department HIV Testing Services</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">OraQuick Website</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">How Oral Testing Works</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">OraQuick HIVST Training Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">CDC HIV Self-Testing Basics</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Informational Flyer on HIV Self-Testing</a></li> </ul>