

FDA panel backs first rapid, take home HIV test

May 15 2012

(AP) -- A panel of HIV specialists is recommending that U.S. regulators approve the [first over-the-counter HIV test](#) designed to quickly return a result in the privacy of a person's own home, a new option which could expand testing for the virus that causes AIDS.

The 17 members of the [Food and Drug Administration](#) advisory panel voted unanimously that the benefits of OraQuick [HIV test](#) outweigh its potential risks for consumers. The test kit uses a mouth swab sample to detect the presence of HIV within 20 minutes.

The manufacturer OraSure already sells a version of the test to doctors and other health professionals. Studies showed the test was less accurate when used by consumers, but panelists said that the benefits of expanding HIV testing outweigh a small decrease in test accuracy.

©2012 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.

Citation: FDA panel backs first rapid, take home HIV test (2012, May 15) retrieved 19 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2012-05-fda-panel-rapid-home-hiv.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--