



---

Colorado Department  
of Public Health  
and Environment

## **In-Home HIV Test Discussion**

**March 2013**

**Prepared by:**

Carrie Webber, Program Assistant  
Richard Weinert MA, HIV Prevention Program Coordinator  
Maria Lopez, DHRPC Program Manager

## **Executive Summary – Complete Presentations Available on the Website [www.dhprc.org](http://www.dhprc.org)**

### **Introduction**

The Denver HIV Resources Planning Council (DHRPC) and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) collaborated to assemble this meeting to discuss how partners in public health might address the release of the OraQuick In-Home HIV Test and its promising yet complicated implications to the field. This was the first meeting in what might be a future series. It served as an opportunity to bring together key stakeholders, people living with HIV/AIDS and community members.

#### **In-Home HIV Test Discussion**

200 W. 14th Avenue, 2nd Floor, Room TR 2.1, Grand Mesa Conference Room

**Friday, February 15, 2013**

12:30 – 2:30pm

#### **Attendance:**

Steve D’Ascoli, Bob Bongiovanni, Tiffani Burke, Penny DeNoble, Jean Finn, Michael Fuhrman, Robert George, Chris Grano, Kari Hartel, Brent Heinze, Rebecca Jordan, Carol Lease, Luci Lyon, Olga Martinez, Angy Montgomery, Rose-Marie Nelson, Don Pults, Robert Riester, Sarah Rowan, MD, Jalene Salazar, Grant Scovel, Jamie Sims, Pieter Tolsma, Otto Trujillo, Darrell Vigil, Julie Weise, Josh Whittington, Sean Wolfe, Sam Zakkour

**Teleconference:** Michael Dorosch, Rabeeha Ghaffar, Laura Ginnett, Lauren Shulman, William Tinley

**Staff:** Maria Lopez, Richard Weinert, Carrie Webber

## Welcome and introductions

HIV Prevention Program Coordinator at CDPHE, Richard Weinert, MA welcomed guests and began introductions, including teleconference participants. The group consisted of key stakeholders, DHRPC members and community members, and CDPHE management. Lunch was provided at this event.

## Goals

1. Determine the best way public health messaging can address the home test and Linkage to Care (LTC) if consumers are preliminarily positive,
2. Discuss how this may impact the content of the Colorado Comprehensive HIV Testing Plan (CCHTP),
3. Establish what providers and the public should know about the In-home HIV Test.

## Questions and Discussion Points

Both Richard Weinert and Maria Lopez led a PowerPoint presentation and held an open and informal discussion. The following questions led to dialogue, with discussion points listed accordingly:

1. What do we know about the In-Home HIV Test?
  - Group wanted to address fear of testing/giving out information
  - OraQuick is missing the one-on-one contact and support. The In-Home test kit does not address the consequences of self-harm if positive. How will data be affected for people who test positive but don't link to care?
  - OraQuick does not address in the package that there is a temperature limit between 36-80 degrees Fahrenheit.
  - The \$40 barrier is OK compared to full cost of experience of getting tested in person (like driving time, time off work, etc.)
  - There are no "do not tip" instructions on the box.
  - The language in the instructions is sometimes stigmatizing: "Don't worry. If you're test result is positive you can still live a 'normal' life."
  - The wording in the test kit is vague about the "window period."
2. What influence does public health have on the In-Home HIV Test?
  - Create partnerships to find out demographically who is buying.
  - The in-home test is selling everywhere. What data can we collect?
  - How are people who test at home then linked to care? Make recommendations to the OraQuick referred search sites. Power to refer people. Advocate to tailoring it as a state-wide initiative.

3. What does this group hope to provide the general population (as well as at-risk communities) regarding the In-Home HIV test?
  - National Prevention Information Network (NPIN) has the capacity to be a richer resource.
  - OraQuick will not apply to low-income people even though \$40 is not that high.
  - Stress the importance of seeing if OraQuick can have their customer service staff trained in post-test counseling.
  - Be sure temperature controls are followed.
  - Tailor the referrals listed on NPIN; improve the ability of people to enter their agency information on NPIN,
  - Encourage our HIV doctors to be listed on the [www.hivma.org](http://www.hivma.org) lists,
  - Consider in-store inserts on things like "HIV positive?" or "HIV negative?" for resources for those buying (or stealing) the tests.
  - Consider putting an instructional DVD in the test kit.
  
4. What stakeholders should be invited to future discussions?
  - OraQuick, Walgreens and NPIN representatives
  - Ask home test sellers to give information on how quickly they sell the product, any noteworthy selling patterns, etc.
  - How do we address Linkage to Care (LTC), and referrals for treatment based on In-Home test?
  - Josh Whittington (Walgreens representative): Go to corporate; provide a single contact on box. Have pharmacists involved.
  
5. How might the In-Home test impact the Colorado Comprehensive HIV Testing Plan (CCHTP)?
  - CDPHE would like to focus on how to connect the home-test with the provision of non-occupational post exposure prophylaxis (nPEP) in Colorado.
  
6. How do we address Linkage to Care (LTC), and referrals for treatment based on In-Home test?
  - Could we possibly include a survey on each receipt when the test is purchased at a retailer? Expand linkage to care to targeting providers in high-risk locations where OraQuick is sold.
  - Engage OraQuick, Walgreens, CVS, etc. in the discussion.

7. How should the HIV Home Test be addressed on related public health websites (CDPHE, DHRPC, DPH, Tri-County, Jefferson County, etc.), i.e. “How do we prepare stakeholders to address this”?
- Address the home test on local websites (CDPHE, DHRPC, DPH, Tri-County, etc.) and provide information for those purchasing and using the home test.
  - Simplify the resources and make it easy to access them.
8. Additional recommendations for consideration?
- As we partner with for-profit providers with a monetary incentive we must think how retailers do.
  - We should combine these efforts and have a conversation with the vendor.

### **Action Steps in need of Community Input and Strategy Development**

Larger Scale – Give input to OraQuick on ways to improve informational packets.

Larger Scale – Relationship Build to know who is buying kits

Larger Scale – Give input to OraQuick on Linkage to Care via a survey on each receipt.

Larger Scale – Give input to OraQuick regarding customer service training – post testing and resources

Larger Scale – Give input to the National Prevention Information Network to be a richer resource

Larger Scale – Inserts and instructional DVD for test kits

Local Impacts – Encourage Providers to become listed on [www.hivma.org](http://www.hivma.org)

Local Impacts – Expand Linkage to Care efforts to target local providers in high risk locations where test is sold.

Local Impacts - Address the home test on local websites (CDPHE, DHRPC, DPH, Tri-County, etc.) and provide information for those purchasing and using the home test.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.