

**Table 2. Overview of the diversity of HIV tests and their characteristics**

	<b>Self-testing</b>	<b>Point of Care</b>	<b>Self-sampling</b>	<b>Phlebotomy</b>
<b>Time from test to patient receipt of result</b>	15 minutes	1-15 minutes	2 days to a week (postal dependent)	Hours to several days
<b>Characteristics of test result delivery</b>	Instant - read by user	Instant -delivered by health care worker	Negative results via SMS or secure login. Reactive tests via phone call	Depends on setting: Negative - via SMS, phone or face to face. Reactive via phone call or face to face
<b>Sample (blood saliva)</b>	Blood or Saliva	Blood or saliva	Blood (TINY vial or blood spot) or Saliva*	Blood
<b>Window Period**</b>	3 months as all tests currently 3 <sup>rd</sup> generation only	4 to 12 weeks	4 weeks unless saliva when 12 weeks	2 days to 4 weeks
<b>Antibody</b>	12 weeks	12 weeks	12 weeks (when saliva used)	n/a
<b>Antibody &amp; antigen</b>	n/a	4 weeks	4 weeks	4 weeks
<b>RNA</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	2 days
<b>Resources required for services</b>	Not legally available in some national contexts  In UK for example not available on NHS.	Staff training Testing (average of~ 5 minutes) Result notification Confirmatory testing	Cost of kit Distribution Laboratory processing Result notification Linkage for confirmatory testing	Staff training Drawing of sample Laboratory processing Result notification

	Cost of confirmatory testing and linkage to specialist care			
<b>Physical setting of use</b>	User choice	Typically Sexual health clinics, community outreach, some Primary Care services.	User choice	Any health care setting, typically Primary Care and hospital
<b>Overt linkage pathways into care and surveillance</b>	No but information to facilitate process can be incorporated into kits. Difficult to monitor testing frequency, or linkage into care	Yes	All those with reactive results would be rung and offered facilitated linkage for confirmatory testing	Yes

\* In UK only blood based assays have CE mark, this does not include use of dried blood spots.

\*\* The window period will vary according to whether the test detects antibodies, antigens or nucleic acids and can range from as little as 48 hours (RNA based tests) to three months (tests detecting HIV antibodies only)