

Opinions and User-Intentions of Men Who Have Sex with Men Regarding a Home- Collection STI/HIV Testing Service

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Rationale of the Intervention

- Introduce free-of-charge home-collection tests for STIs/HIV to MSM paired with professional service (reliable alternative to commercial, unreliable tests)
- **Goals:**
 - Reach more MSM
 - Encourage regular screening
 - Lower threshold

Steps of the Intervention

1) Raise
Awareness

2) Order and
Receive

3) Conduction

4) Retour

5)
Communication
of Results

Methods

- **Research question:** Explore relevant factors, such as opinions, attitudes, perceived barriers and needs, own ideas, concerns, beliefs, and expectations of MSM towards a new home-collection STI test service
- Semi-structured interviews with 18 MSM

Findings

Step 1: Raise Awareness

- **Barrier:** Reach MSM who want to remain anonymous
- **Ideas of the Participants:**
 - **Internet/Social Media** (Facebook, dating apps, etc.)
 - **Meeting Points** (gay sauna, gay pride events, etc.)
 - **Schools**
 - **Advertisement** (Poster, TV, Radio, etc.)
 - **SMS/E-Mail**

Step 2: Order and Receive

- How to order a test kit?
 - Website of the GGD website (preferred)
 - Telephone
 - SMS/e-mail
- How to receive a test kit?
 - Home delivery
 - Pick-up Point (Where?)
 - Organization (e.g. hospital, GP, GGD, etc.)
 - Friends/Sex partner
- **Barrier:** No control over who is ordering a test kit free-of-charge

Step 3: Conduction

The Blood Test



Microtainer



Dry Blood Spot

Step 3: Conduction

- Self-efficacy high for urine test and anal swap
- Self efficacy low for blood test (**Barrier**)
 - However, only 2 MSM too afraid to conduct a blood test themselves
- Increase self-efficacy through step-by-step video instruction

Step 4: Retour

- No problems expected by the MSM in this study
- **Barrier:** What to do when test kits are not sent back?
 - Reminder SMS
 - Sanctions

Step 5: Results

- How to communicate the results?
 - If positive/STI detected: telephone call + invitation to counseling
 - If negative/healthy: SMS
 - Online profile
 - Video conference
- **Barrier:** Face-to-face contact vs. anonymity
 - If negative/healthy: no face-to-face contact necessary
 - If positive/STI detected: face-to-face contact highly important to MSM

Summary

General impression by MSM is positive: 14/18 MSM would order a test

Pro	Contra
Easy/Convinient	Blood test
Saves efforts <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No waiting time• No day off from work• No money for gas or parking	No consultation with a health professional
Confidential	Home situation can be problematic (e.g. If MSM isn't out of the closet)
Professional and reliable	
Conduct at home whenever its suits MSM	
Free-of-charge	

Thank you for your attention

Questions?