

Request for Manufacturers/Suppliers of Dual HIV & Syphilis Rapid Test Kits

The Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI) is planning to undertake a verification study of Dual HIV & Syphilis Rapid Test Kits for the selection of a quality product to be used as the first or a screening test in the national three-test serial HIV Rapid Testing Algorithm for relevant population groups. The verification study is aimed at assessing Dual HIV & Syphilis Rapid Test Kits for the least possible shared common false HIV-reactivity with the second and third placed HIV RDTs of the approved National Algorithm while at the same time accurately detecting antibodies to syphilis (*Treponema pallidum*).

Therefore, EPHI invites interested manufacturers /suppliers to submit Dual HIV & Syphilis Test Kits to be considered for the verification process which shall fulfill the following criteria:

1. Currently in the list of World Health Organization (WHO) prequalified In Vitro Diagnostics.
2. Kits are complete with:
 - *Test device (Individually in a foil pouch with desiccant)
 - *Disposable specimen transfer devices/Capillary tubes
 - *Assay diluent/buffer
 - *Sterile lancets
 - *Alcohol swabs
 - *Instruction for use in English
3. Storage temperature: Between 1°C & 40°C
4. Letter of Authorization: Submission of a Letter of Authorization from the manufacturer of the kit submitted is mandatory for suppliers.

Manufacturers/suppliers that have products which fulfill all of the above criteria are herewith invited to submit two different production lots of kits as specified above, each sufficient to conduct 400 tests (i.e. 16 complete kits of 25 tests from each lot) to EPHI at the National HIV/AIDS Laboratory Building, First Floor, Office Number 1 within 30 calendar days starting from the date of this announcement in The Ethiopian Herald or Addis Zemen Newspapers.

Furthermore, should a manufacturer or its in-country authorized representative or distributor require any support from the institute for facilitating the process of delivering the kits, the institute is ready to provide the required assistance as prompt as possible if this is requested in writing following the guidance provided below.

Any communication or inquiry related to this announcement shall only be made in writing to:

**The Director General,
Ethiopian Public Health Institute
Gulelle Subcity, Woreda 9
Swaziland Street, House # 625/626
P.O.Box 1242 or 5654
Addis Ababa.**

Note: This announcement, along with a form with details on delivery and receipt of kits, is posted on EPHI, Ethiopian Pharmaceuticals Supply Agency (EPSA) and Public Procurement & Property Administration Agency of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia websites:
<http://www.ephi.gov.et> , <http://www.epsa.gov.et> & <http://www.ppa.gov.et> respectively."

Ethiopian Public Health Institute