



My News 

Today's Paper

Local

Tasmania

National

World

Health

Opinion

Business

Entertainment

Lifestyle

Sport



Health Wellbeing Sexual Health

New HIV self-testing kits being rolled



Annual HIV Injection Shows Promise in Early Trial

A new once-a-year injection to prevent HIV has passed a crucial early safety trial,... more

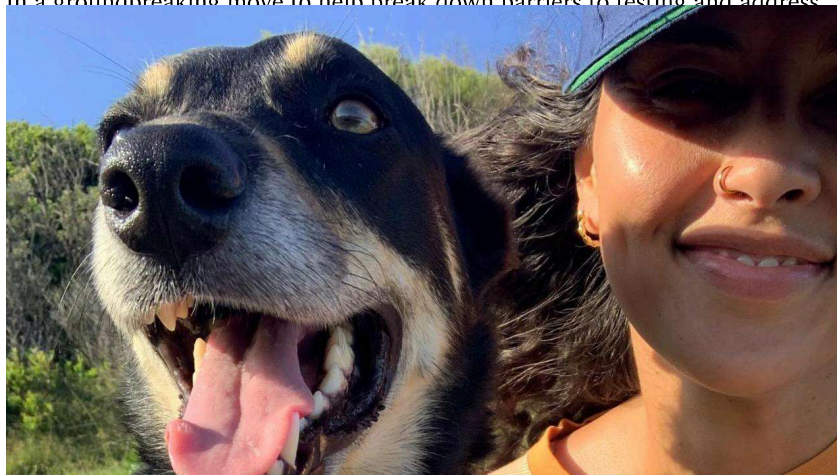
EXCLUSIVE

Join the conversation (6 Comments)

through a national rollout of vending machines across the country in universities and nightclubs.

More related stories

In a groundbreaking move to help break down barriers to testing and address



Sexual Health

Why some women struggle to orgasm – and what can help

Tiara has opened up on difficulties in being able to reach an orgasm in the hope it will help women going through the same thing talk about it.



The Atomo Diagnostics HIV self-testing kits. Picture: Supplied

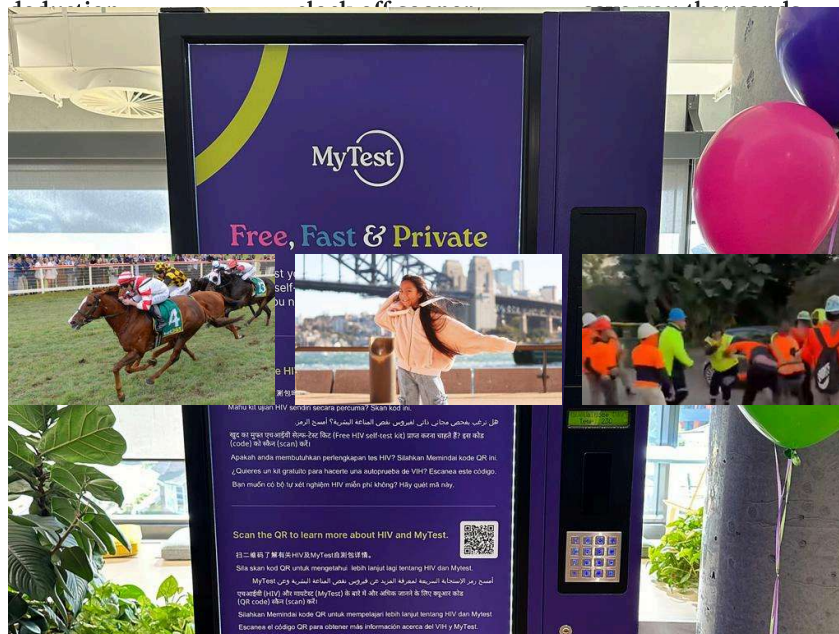
The national rollout program continues to expand, with more vending machines to be installed in Australian universities, in NSW, South Australia and [Read More >](#)



Business
In universities, the Federal Government-funded tests are free for all users, John [Read More >](#)

Business
Top 10 best minute tips to secure a handy tax [Read More >](#)

Business
Four AI tools everyday Aussies are using to [Read More >](#)



Some of the HIV test vending machines that are available around the country. Picture: Supplied

Trending now [Read More](#)
“The reason for that is that the government has recognised that cost, particularly for young people, could be a barrier to use and they want to make sure that there’s more testing and cost isn’t a kind of barrier to uptake of testing,” he said.

“So it is subsidised and free to the user and funded through the government. It’s a really good thing that we’ve got in Venice ahead of Bezos’ wedding at there were 30,010 people at the wedding.”

Greens push suburban rail development in 2023. It was Australia, according to Health Equity Matters.



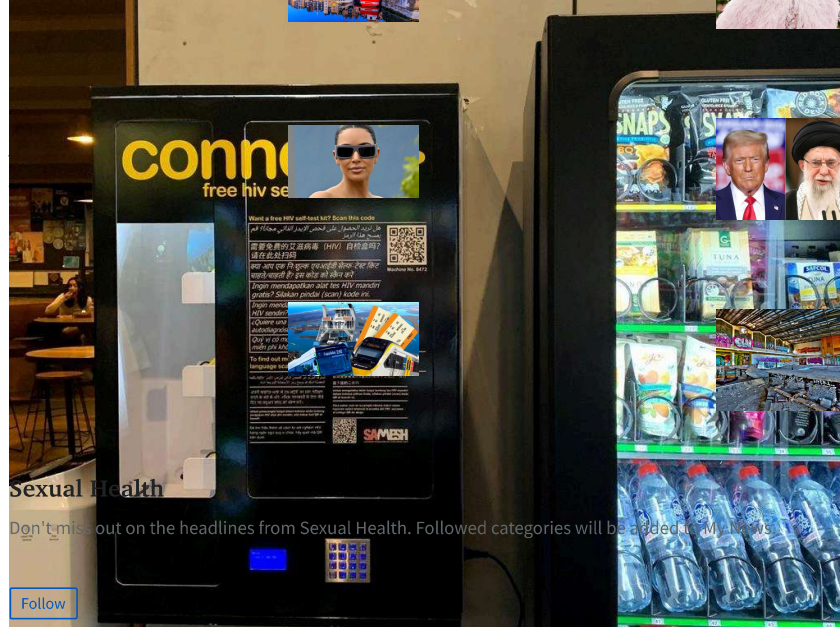
Mr Kelly said one of the benefits of the tests is that they are “quick, pretty simple, easy to do and can be done at home, you can do it pretty much anywhere immediately.”

Is it time to move on from the immediate strategies?



He said the feedback from venues where the tests are available was positive, with the vending machines program proving popular with young people, particularly overseas-born migrants in Australia on student visas.

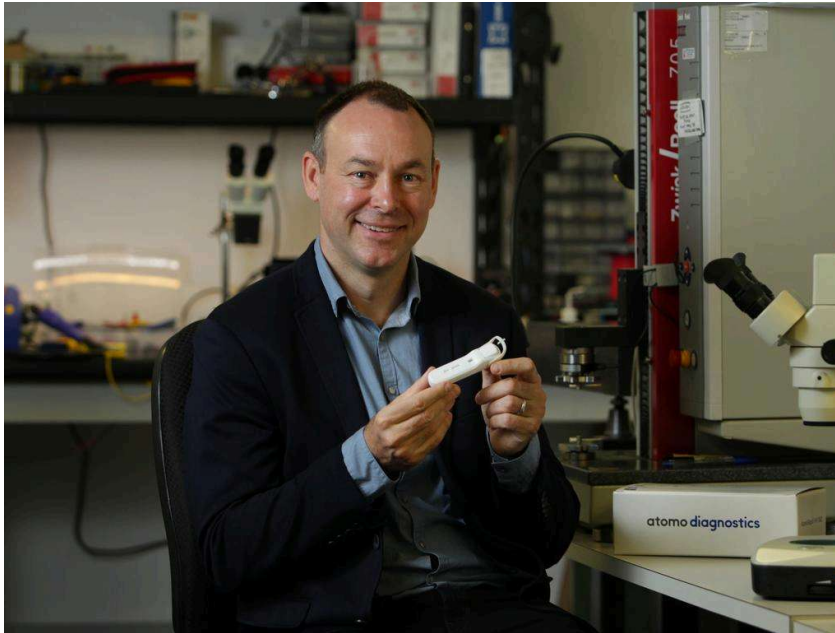
10 things to do in the French town of Honfleur



HIV tests are now free in some Australian universities with more on the way. Picture: Supplied

“(Many) young people don’t have a GP. It’s a much more transactional service now with healthcare,” he said.

“And I think for a lot of people, they don’t have that doctor to go see or that clinic that they can call. So I think having a discreet, easy to use test in the university that they can access for free has been a game changer.”



John Kelly is the CEO and founder of Atomo Diagnostics. Picture: Hollie Adams/The Australian

In NSW, the Ministry of Health’s “My Test” vending machines, branded in distinctive purple, are placed in night-life venues, sexual health clinics, community centres, universities and even a public library.

In Victoria and South Australia, the “CONNECT” program, co-ordinated by Dr Nikki Sullivan, is preparing for its national rollout, expanding from successful trials in South Australia and Victoria to all states and territories.

Vending machines will be installed at the University of Melbourne next month, when students return from their semester holidays.

FULL LIST OF VENUES

HIV Self-Test vending machines are available at various sites, including:

- Tamworth City Library
- “Universal Gay Bar/Night Club” Oxford Street, Sydney, popular nightclub/bar for a mixed age LGBTQIA+ clientele
- University of Newcastle – NUspace Campus
- University of Sydney
- University of New South Wales (UNSW)
- University of Sth Australia
- University of Adelaide
- University of Melbourne (from next month)
- Blacktown Methadone Clinic
- Core Community Services Cabramatta
- Sauna X by 357 in Sydney CBD
- “Sydney Sauna” on Oxford Street, Darlinghurst

It comes after researchers at Melbourne’s Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity made a huge step towards an HIV cure by devising a method to deliver an mRNA-based therapy direct to cells, killing the virus as it circulates in the body.

Renowned HIV researcher Sharon Lewin, director of the Doherty Institute, said earlier this month that the breakthrough was made when the team was working on a therapy for Covid-19.

Meanwhile, Atomo Diagnostics has also called for the Federal Government to run a trial program in Australia, similar to ones currently being held in Spain and US, for at-home testing to be used for pre-exposure prophylaxis or PrEP.



John Kelly, founder and CEO of Atomo Diagnostics, on left. Picture: Supplied

PrEP involves HIV negative people taking antiretroviral medication to protect them and prevent HIV infection.

Mr Kelly said the rates of HIV transmission had been falling but challenges remained as people on PrEP had to test negative every 12 weeks, meaning the health system was getting clogged up with thousands of appointments for routine testing.

“In Barcelona, they have adopted an alternative approach where twice a year you can do a self-test at home and show your negative status to stay on PrEP and you then come into the clinic two times a year instead of four times a year,” he said.

Mr Kelly said the trial program showed major benefits.

“We think it’s the way forward for PrEP testing, to make it more flexible, reduce the burden on clinics and get people the opportunity to do occasional tests at home so they don’t have to take a half day off to go into a clinic and queue for three hours to get a test that they could easily do at home.”

More Coverage





Why it's thought these weight loss drugs may reduce risk of dementia



Telling detail in Bezos' wedding invite

Originally published as [New HIV self-testing kits being rolled out in Australia in vending machines at unis, nightclubs](https://www.themercury.com.au/health/wellbeing/sexual-health/new-hiv-selftesting-kits-being-rolled-out-in-australia-in-vending-machines-at-unis-nightclubs)

Membership	About Us	Contact Us	Our News Network	Our Partners	Our Apps
Subscription packages	About us	Help & Support	Herald Sun	Buy Search Sell Classifieds	
Group/Corporate Subscriptions	Meet the team	Story Tips	The Daily Telegraph	Foxsports	
The Mercury App	Job Opportunities	FAQs	The Courier Mail	Foxtel	
Today's Paper	Code of Conduct	Standards of practice	The Advertiser	Hipages	
Newsletters	Subscription FAQs	Letter to the Editor	news.com.au	Kayo	
Rewards	Subscription terms	Licensing & Reprints	The Australian	My Tributes	
	Financial Hardship Policy	Advertise with us	Geelong Advertiser	Punters	
			The Cairns Post	odds.com.au	
			Gold Coast Bulletin	racenet.com.au	
			Townsville Bulletin	Sky News	
			The Chronicle	Coupons	
			NT News		
			The Weekly Times		
			CODE Sports		

A NOTE ABOUT RELEVANT ADVERTISING: We collect information about the content (including ads) you use across this site and use it to make both advertising and content more relevant to you on our network and other sites. Find out more about our policy and your choices, including how to opt-out. Sometimes our articles will try to help you find the right product at the right price. We may receive payment from third parties for publishing this content or when you make a purchase through the links on our sites.

Nationwide News Pty Ltd © 2025. All times AEST (GMT +10). Powered by WordPress.com VIP

[Privacy policy](#) [Relevant ads opt-out](#) [Cookie policy](#) [Terms of use](#)