

Appendix 1: Describing details of search strategy		
Concept		Search terms
Population	adults living in Africa	“adult”; adult*;HIV;”Human Immunodeficiency Virus”; “AIDS”; Acquired Immunodeficiency syndrome*; africa; africa*
Intervention	HIV self-testing	“HIV Infections” OR “HIV”[MeSH] OR “hiv”[tiab] OR hiv-1*[tiab] OR hiv-2*[tiab] OR hiv1[tiab] OR hiv2[tiab] OR hiv infect*[tiab] OR human immunodeficiency virus[tiab] OR human immunodeficiency virus[tiab] OR human immuno-deficiency virus[tiab] OR human immune- deficiency virus[tiab] OR (human immun*[tiab] AND deficiency virus[tiab]) OR acquired immunodeficiency syndrome[tiab] OR acquired immunodeficiency syndrome[tiab] OR acquired immuno-deficiency syndrome[tiab] OR acquired immune-deficiency syndrome[tiab] OR (acquired immun*[tiab] AND deficiency syndrome[tiab]) OR "sexually transmitted diseases, Viral"[MeSH:noexp]) AND (randomized controlled trial [pt] OR controlled clinical trial [pt] OR randomized [tiab] OR placebo [tiab] OR drug therapy [sh] OR randomly [tiab] OR trial [tiab] OR groups [tiab]) AND self-testing; self-test* HIV self-testing; HIVST; “testing”;“counseling” NOT (animals [mh] NOT humans [mh]).
Comparison	HIV testing standard of care	“provider-administered testing”; provider-administered test*,” testing standard of care”
Outcome	Uptake, yield and linkage into HIV treatment ,social harm	“uptake”; “yield”, “HIV positivity”;”social harm”
Africa		Africa [MeSH Terms] OR Africa [All Fields] (“Africa”[MeSH] OR Africa*[tw] OR Algeria[tw] OR Angola[tw] OR Benin[tw] OR Botswana[tw] OR “Burkina Faso”[tw] OR Burundi[tw] OR Cameroon[tw] OR “Canary Islands”[tw] OR “Cape Verde”[tw] OR “Central African Republic”[tw] OR Chad[tw] OR Comoros[tw] OR Congo[tw] OR “Democratic Republic of Congo”[tw] OR Djibouti[tw] OR Egypt[tw] OR “Equatorial Guinea”[tw] OR Eritrea[tw] OR Ethiopia[tw] OR Gabon[tw] OR Gambia[tw] OR Ghana[tw] OR Guinea[tw] OR “GuineaBissau”[tw] OR “Ivory Coast”[tw] OR “Cote d’Ivoire”[tw] OR Jamahiriya[tw] OR Jamahiriya[tw] OR Kenya[tw] OR Lesotho[tw] OR Liberia[tw] OR Libya[tw] OR Libya[tw] OR Madagascar[tw] OR Malawi[tw] OR Mali[tw] OR Mauritania[tw] OR Mauritius[tw] OR Mayotte[tw] OR Morocco[tw] OR Mozambique[tw] OR Mozambique[tw] OR Namibia[tw] OR Niger[tw] OR Nigeria[tw] OR Principe[tw] OR Reunion[tw] OR Rwanda[tw] OR “SaoTome”[tw] OR Senegal[tw] OR Seychelles[tw] OR “SierraLeone”[tw] OR Somalia[tw] OR “South Africa”[tw] OR “St Helena”[tw] OR Sudan[tw] OR

	Swaziland[tw] OR Tanzania[tw] OR Togo[tw] OR Tunisia[tw] OR Uganda[tw] OR “Western Sahara”[tw] OR Zaire[tw] OR Zambia[tw] OR Zimbabwe[tw] OR “Central Africa”[tw] OR “Central African”[tw] OR “West Africa”[tw] OR “West African”[tw] OR “Western Africa”[tw] OR “Western African”[tw] OR “East Africa”[tw] OR “East African”[tw] OR “Eastern Africa”[tw] OR “Eastern African”[tw] OR “Northern Africa” [tw] OR “Southern Africa”[tw] OR “Southern African”[tw] OR “sub Saharan Africa”[tw] OR “sub Saharan African”[tw] OR “sub-Saharan Africa”[tw] OR “sub-Saharan African”[tw]) NOT (“guinea pig”[tw] OR “guinea pigs”[tw] OR ‘aspergillums Niger’[tw])
--	--