

New strategy now planned to increase HIV testing

Every Kenyan visiting a medical facility may soon be requested to take a HIV test, the Government has said. The radical measure is meant to boost response towards HIV. National AIDS and STD Control Programme (NASCOP) Head of HIV prevention, Dr Peter Cherutich said with this strategy and a number of other HIV intervention components in mind, the government hopes to have 80 percent of Kenyans having been tested by 2013. Following the multi-dimensional interventions that have been put in place, HIV testing has been found to be one of the most critical hindrances in the fight against AIDS. Speaking at a media roundtable hosted by Internews Kenya office yesterday, Dr Cherutich added; "That's why we are saying that by scaling up routine testing as one of the latest key intervention in our medical facilities, we would have 80 percent Kenyans tested by 2013."

- **GEORGE KEBASO**