

# **Can the *HIVSmart!* Self-Testing App Plug Service Delivery Gaps in Smart Cities?**

## **The Evidence**

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Designed by Dr. Pant Pai and her research team at McGill University and MUHC RI, with funding from Grand Challenges Canada since 2011, *HIVSmart!* is an innovative app-based HIV self-testing solution that is designed to enable and plug gaps in service delivery of HIV self-testing. It works with any approved self-test (saliva based or finger-stick blood test) and is available in many languages.

With the *HIVSmart!* App based solution, any intended global user of an HIV self-test can potentially self-test at a private space anywhere: at home or office, or discreet private spaces in outreach clinic settings or doctor's offices. The *HIVSmart!* App solution can be an invaluable tool to close gaps in HIV self-testing while reducing stigma, improve convenience and thereby increase testing rates for HIV.

In this talk, Dr. Pant Pai will present the evidence from implementation research conducted in diverse populations worldwide with the *HIVSmart!* App solution: from students of McGill University and health care professionals of the University of Cape Town, to high risk STD clinic attendee populations of Montreal and South Africa. The work has been funded primarily by Grand Challenges Canada, with support from Ministry of Health South Africa (DST/MRC) and Canadian Institutes for Health Research.

With the UNAIDS call for 90-90-90 targets (90% tested, 90% treated, 90% retained on treatment) to end the HIV epidemic, the *HIVSmart!* self-testing App, together with HIV self-testing, form a powerful proactive solution to help achieve the first 90 target in smart cities worldwide.