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Health awareness

Prince Harry and Rihanna take HIV test in Barbados. >43



When Harry met Rihanna

Prince and singer team up to raise AIDS awareness

BRITAIN'S Prince Harry and international pop star Rihanna took HIV tests together as part of a World AIDS Day campaign in Barbados.

The pair took finger prick tests yesterday at a clinic in the capital Bridgetown to raise awareness about the fight against HIV/AIDS, joining other events held world-wide on the same day.

"If you are positive and you catch it soon enough, you can take medication and have a completely normal life with your loved ones," Prince Harry said.

Rihanna, a native of the Caribbean island who now lives in New York, was surprised at the ease and speed of the test, which the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS says is cheap, accurate and delivers results quickly.

"I don't think people are aware of how much progress has been made with the fight against HIV and AIDS," said the 28-year-old singer.



Quick and easy: Rihanna taking the HIV test as Prince Harry looks on in Bridgetown, Barbados. — Reuters

"The more we get the word out, the better."

According to 2015 data from the programme, a total of 36.7 million people are currently living with

HIV around the world.

Two million people are living with HIV in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Prince Harry and Rihanna were

in Barbados separately to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the island's independence from British rule on Wednesday. — Reuters