FDA Stops Bill Gates COVID-19 Testing Program

The FDA halted coronavirus testing started by Bill Gates and Seattle health officials pending further review. Gates' program was sending testing kits to people's homes in an attempt to achieve the level of testing the government says is necessary to safely begin reopening the country. Seattle health officials say the FDA asked them to halt testing to receive additional authorizations, but Seattle health officials say their testing procedures are safe.

Image: *Bill Gates during a panel session at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. Photographer: Jason Alden/Bloomberg*

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The FDA has said they are concerned about the accuracy of at-home tests, whereas Bill Gates has said at-home testing "could help improve the understanding of the outbreak." The Hill reported on this saying:

> *The pause is emblematic of the fractured national response to the coronavirus, with federal officials proposing guidelines but leaving much of the implementation and administration of tests to states and localities.*
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> *FDA halts Bill Gates coronavirus testing program -The Hill*