Trials being

done on new

anti-HIV gels

**BY NATION CORRESPONDENT**

Scientist are conducting trials

on antiretroviral-based gels that

could protect women against HIV

during sex.

The substances, known as microbicides,

include vaginal gels,

rings and film that could help

stop the spread of HIV.

Speaking at a media workshop

organised by the National Aids

Control Council at the Kenya

School of Monetary Studies in

Nairobi, former Medical Women’s

Association secretary Pamela

Njuguna yesterday said the trials

are being conducted in Rwanda,

Zambia and South Africa.

**More women affected**

“Results are expected in 2014

and will be applicable in Kenya.

We shall await the results to move

to the next phase,” Dr Njuguna, a

health specialist, said.

She said some of the microbicides

being tested are designed

only for women as vaginal products

while others were rectal products

that both men and women could

use.

In Kenya and other sub-Saharan

countries, more women than men

are living with HIV, with experts

saying those aged 15 to 24 are at

least twice likely as young men to

be infected.

In Kenya, some 1.5 million people

are infected with HIV the virus

that causes Aids.