# Rapid COVID-19 Point-of-care (POC) Screening

## Information for Fully Private Long Term Care/Seniors’ Assisted Living Facilities

The Provincial Health Services Authority (the “PHSA”) will provide certain Abbott Panbio™ COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Tests (the “Test Kits”) to the Facility to support point-of-care (POC) screening under the direction of the Provincial Health Officer, for non-diagnostic screening purposes, upon submission of a completed order form to PHSA (**Appendix 1** attached).

Please review the information below before submitting an order form to PHSA.

### **Use of Test Kits**

1. Test Kits may be retained and made available for use in connection with the Provincial Health Officer order(s) and/or the discretion granted to Medical Health Officers.
2. Test Kits may only be used for the intended purposes of screening and must not be sold or distributed to any other person. Those being screened must not be charged for any point-of- care tests or otherwise for the Test Kits.
3. The [BC Covid-19 Rapid Antigen Screening Program Guidelines, Requirements and Standard Operating Procedures](http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID-19_Tests/POC_screening/BC%20COVID-19%20Rapid%20Antigen%20Screening%20Program%20Panbio%20BC.pdf) must be followed if the Facility is not accredited by the [Diagnostic Accreditation Program](https://www.cpsbc.ca/accredited-facilities/dap) administered by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC. These standards may change from time to time. Please check the [BC Rapid COVID-19 Point of Care Screening Program website](http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/testing/rapid-covid-19-point-of-care-screening-program) for updates on a regular basis.
4. In providing COVID-19 point-of-care screening to individuals using the Test Kits at the Facility, compliance with all applicable laws, provincial or federal directives, and provincial or federal guidance is required, including:
   1. [BC’s Rapid Point of Care Testing Strategy](https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/3-4-21_rapid_testing_strategy.pdf)
   2. Requirements for a COVID-19 Point of Care (POC) Screening Site
   3. Training resources for COVID-19 Point of Care (POC) Screening
   4. [BC Covid-19 Rapid Antigen Screening Program: Guidelines, Requirements and Standard Operating Procedures](http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID-19_Tests/POC_screening/BC%20COVID-19%20Rapid%20Antigen%20Screening%20Program%20Panbio%20BC.pdf)
   5. Infection, Prevention and Control (IPAC) guidelines.
   6. Adhere to [WorkSafeBC Guidance](https://www.worksafebc.com/en/about-us/covid-19-updates) related to Industry and work place safety
   7. Align with related BCCDC and Ministry of Health [Guidance documents](http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/guidance-documents)
   8. Ensure all [Public Health Orders](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/restrictions) are upheld at all stages of testing and general operations. Testing does not replace public health orders measures such as physical distancing, mask wearing, and hand washing.
   9. Follow all applicable legislation and regulatory requirements, including the [*Public Health Act*](https://www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/08028_01), the [*Health Professions Act*](https://www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/00_96183_01), and [*Health Care (Consent) and Care Facility (Admission) Act*](https://www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/96181_01)*.*
5. The person performing COVID-19 point-of-care antigen testing using the Test Kits at the Facility must have the appropriate knowledge, skills, regulation, and oversight to perform the test with a nasal specimen. Information about the BC Centre of Disease Control (BCCDC) training program is outlined in **Appendix 2** (attached).
6. Positive screening test results must be reported to public health in accordance with the [BC Covid-19 Rapid Antigen Screening Program: Guidelines, Requirements and Standard Operating Procedures](http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID-19_Tests/POC_screening/BC%20COVID-19%20Rapid%20Antigen%20Screening%20Program%20Panbio%20BC.pdf), [letter from the Provincial Health Officer](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/covid-19/covid-19-pho-letter-dap-poc-testing.pdf), and any future Public Health guidance and policies issued from time to time. Due to the rapidly evolving situation with COVID-19, PHSA and/or the BC Ministry of Health may change the data reporting requirements. Please check the [BC Rapid COVID-19 Point of Care Screening Program website](http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/testing/rapid-covid-19-point-of-care-screening-program) for updates on a regular basis. Individuals with the assigned authority and responsibility to report positive COVID-19 Rapid Antigen tests for your Facility need to enrol in the eForm Application by completing the attached enrollment form (**Appendix 3** attached) and sending it to [eFormsenrolment@phsa.ca](mailto:eFormsenrolment@phsa.ca)
7. Non-personal statistical usage of the Test Kits must be reported to the BC Ministry of Health on a weekly basis via email to [HLTH.COVIDANALYTICS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.COVIDANALYTICS@gov.bc.ca) by 5:00 pm each Tuesday as described in the attached BC Rapid Testing Data Collection Form (**Appendix 4** attached). Reporting must begin in the first week the Test Kits are received and continue until the Test Kits are fully used, or the PHSA and/or BC Ministry of Health determines that such reports are no longer required. Due to the rapidly evolving situation with COVID-19, PHSA and/or the BC Ministry of Health may change the data reporting requirements. Please check the [BC Rapid COVID-19 Point of Care Screening Program website](http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/testing/rapid-covid-19-point-of-care-screening-program) for updates on a regular basis.
8. Those being screened must understand their legal rights and obligations prior to testing and provide verbal consent before a test is performed.
9. Any and all costs associated with testing or the Test Kits shall be borne by the Facility including, without limitation, the following costs: human resources, reporting, storage, operational needs, quality assurance, validation and facilities.
10. All Test Kits supplied or made available by PHSA are provided on an “as is” and “as available” basis and PHSA provides no warranty or representations of any kind, express or implied, as to the Test Kits, production or materials of the Test Kits, results of the use thereof or compliance with any other requirements.
11. A completed order form (**Appendix 1** attached) must be submitted to PHSA to order Test Kits. PHSA will provide Test Kits to the Facility subject to availability and written acceptance by PHSA of the order form.
12. **Limitation of Liability.** Under no circumstances will PHSA be liable to the Facility, or any other person or business entity for any direct, indirect, special, incidental, consequential, or other damages whether in contract, tort (including negligence) or otherwise, including, without limitation, related to any financial losses, personal injury, bodily injury, death or financial loss associated with any use of the Test Kits.

Please feel free to contact us at [RapidPOCTeam@phsa.ca](mailto:RapidPOCTeam@phsa.ca) if you have any questions.



  


