

# DIALYSIS COVID-19 testing requirements



ST JOHN OF GOD  
Bunbury Hospital



ST JOHN OF GOD  
Busselton Day Hospital

## Visitor entry requirements

All hospital visitors aged 16 years and over must provide evidence of double dose COVID-19 vaccination on arrival unless they have an approved medical exemption (listed on the Australian Immunisation Register) or compassionate exemption (birth partner, end-of-life visit, parent/carer).

Exempt visitors may be required to wear additional personal protective equipment and meet testing requirements.

All patients will be cared for by our hospital regardless of vaccination status.

For further information about visitor entry requirements, please visit [sjog.org.au/covid-visitors](https://sjog.org.au/covid-visitors)

## Rapid Antigen Testing

To protect our hospital community, all patients are required to undertake a rapid antigen test (RAT) prior to arrival.

Please refer to the below table for various scenarios.

**All patients and visitors must take a photo of the negative RAT result and bring the RAT in a ziplock bag to the hospital.**

### Planned (routine) visits

Conduct RAT at home **no more than three hours prior to your arrival** to the hospital.

### Unplanned visits / emergencies

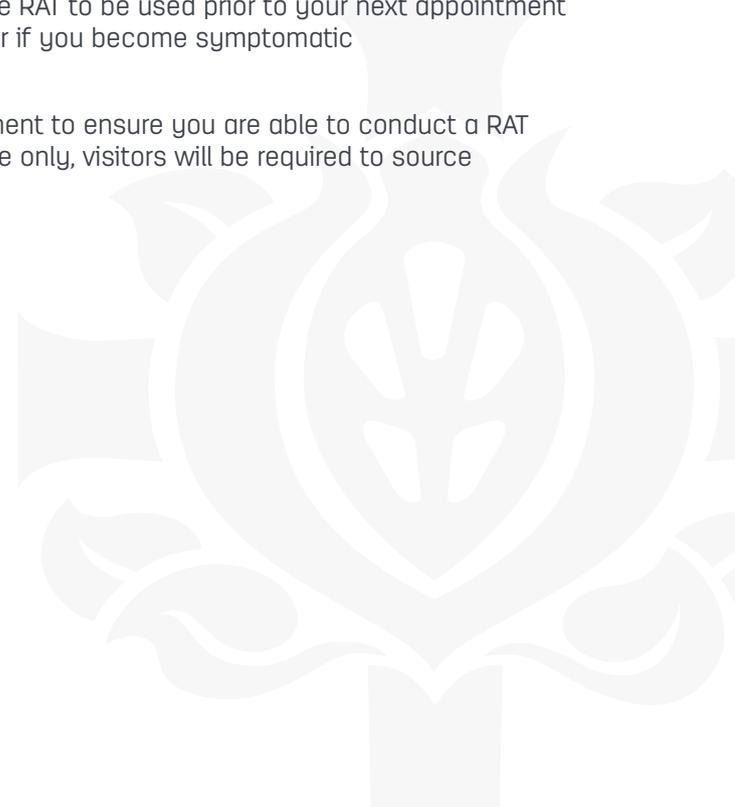
Conduct a RAT at home (**no more than three hours prior to your arrival to the hospital**) using your spare test.

In the case of an emergency or if you do not have a spare RAT, please proceed to the hospital and a test will be conducted on arrival.

## How to access RAT?

You will be provided two RAT's at your first dialysis treatment (one RAT to be used prior to your next appointment and one spare RAT in case of an unplanned or emergency visit, or if you become symptomatic for COVID-19).

You will be provided an additional RAT at each following appointment to ensure you are able to conduct a RAT at-home prior to attending the hospital. The RAT's are for your use only, visitors will be required to source their own RAT's. Please do not supply your tests to anyone else.



## How to conduct a RAT

The below instructions illustrate the principles of a rapid antigen test. There are differences in instruction depending on the type of test that you are provided. **Please follow the instructions supplied with your RAT.**

1.



### PERFORM SPECIMEN COLLECTION:

**Please only use the collection method outlined in the instructions supplied with your RAT.** Depending on the type of RAT you are provided, collection can be nasal only or nasal and throat.

2.

Rotate the lid of extraction buffer bottle



Add the correct number of drops from the extraction buffer into the tube as outlined in your RAT instructions



3.

Insert swab into the tube & rotate to mix



Pinch the tube & remove the solution from the swab



Install the nozzle onto the tube



Add correct number of drops (based on your RAT instructions) of specimen to the test card



Leave swab in solution for 60 seconds



Read results at 15-20 minutes

**Results should NOT be read after 20 minutes.**

Please take a photo of your test at 15-20 minutes and place the test in a ziplock bag to bring to your appointment.

**The RAT must be completed no more than 3 hours prior to the appointment.**

If you are unable to complete a RAT for any reason, please call your admitting area.

## How to interpret your RAT

### POSITIVE

If two coloured bands appear within 15-20 minutes the result is **positive**.

**NOTE:** No matter how faint the coloured band is in the T Zone the result should be considered positive.



### NEGATIVE

If one coloured band appears in the C Zone and **NO** coloured band appears in the T Zone within 15-20 minutes the test result is **negative**.



### INVALID

If there is no coloured band in the C Zone within 15-20 minutes the test is **invalid**.

Repeat the test with a new test device.



## What to do if your RAT returns the following results

### POSITIVE

#### DO NOT ATTEND YOUR APPOINTMENT.

Isolate yourself and contact the Renal Unit to discuss next steps.

### NEGATIVE

#### YOU MAY ATTEND YOUR APPOINTMENT.

Please take a photo of the result **AND** place the RAT in a ziplock bag to bring with you to the hospital.

### INVALID

Repeat the RAT using the spare test provided. If **BOTH TESTS** return an **INVALID** result, please contact the Renal Unit to discuss next steps.

## Useful phone numbers

Renal Unit Bunbury: (08) 9722 1675  
Renal Unit Busselton: (08) 9753 6240  
St John of God Bunbury Hospital: (08) 9722 1600