

VMO

COVID-19

testing requirements

Rapid Antigen Testing

To protect our hospital community, we are implementing a VMO Rapid Antigen Testing (RAT) Program, as outlined below.

VMOs who look after vulnerable patients are required to conduct regular COVID-19 testing, as described in **WA Health's COVID-19 Framework for System Alert and Response (SAR)**.

VMOs working in:

- Birth Suite
- ICU
- Ivy Suite
- NICU
- Ward 35
- Ward 53
- Ward 54
- Ward 71
- Ward 72

Conduct RAT twice weekly with a minimum interval of 72 hours apart.
e.g. Monday & Thursday or before shift if more than 72 hours apart.

Other VMOs

Testing of other VMOs will be determined on a **case-by-case basis**.

Accessing RATs

St John of God Health Care will provide you with sufficient RATs to comply with the above testing schedule. VMO RAT collection points are listed below.

Specialty

Obstetricians & Obstetric Anaesthetists
Neonatologists
Physicians (home ward 7th floor)
Haematologists, Oncologists, Palliative Care Physicians
Intensivists & Cardiologists
Resident Medical Officers

Collection point

Birth Suite Nurse Manager
NICU Nurse Manager
Ward 71 or 72 Nurse Manager
Ward 35 or Ivy Suite Nurse Manager
ICU or CCU Nurse Manager
Medical Teaching Unit

Conducting your RAT

The instructions on the next page 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.**

Rapid Antigen Testing must be completed no more than 3 hours prior to your shift.

Reporting a positive result

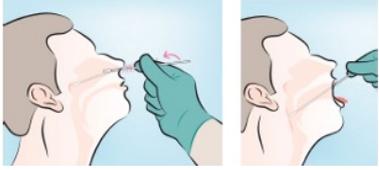
YOU MUST enter any positive result via scanning the QR code or visiting **bit.ly/SJGHC-CTRvv**



Conducting your 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.**

Rapid Antigen Testing must be completed no more than 3 hours prior to your shift.

- 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

How to interpret your RAT

| POSITIVE | NEGATIVE | INVALID |
|--|---|--|
| 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. | 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 . | 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 | NEGATIVE | INVALID |
|---|--|--|
| DO NOT ATTEND THE HOSPITAL. Isolate yourself and register the positive result here: bit.ly/SJGHC-CTR Please call Infection Control & email Acting Director of Medical Services to discuss next steps. | YOU MAY ATTEND THE HOSPITAL. You may wish to take a photo of the negative test for your records. | PLEASE REPEAT THE RAT. If two invalid test results are received, please contact Infection Control to discuss next steps. |

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