

CAREGIVERS COVID-19 testing requirements

Rapid Antigen Testing

To protect our hospital community, we are implementing a caregiver Rapid Antigen Testing Program, as outlined below.

Caregivers 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)**.

Caregivers 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 caregivers

Testing of other caregivers (including community support workers) 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.

Your manager will collect the RATs from the designated storage site and will provide the relevant number of tests based on your screening requirements as outlined above.

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 kit that you are provided. **Please follow the instructions supplied with your RAT kit.**

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-CTR**



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 kit that you are provided. **Please follow the instructions supplied with your RAT kit.**

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 kit. Depending on the type of RAT kit 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 kit instructions

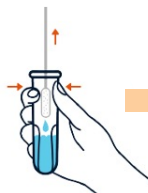


3.

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 kit 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

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 SHIFT.

Isolate yourself and register the positive result here:
bit.ly/SJGHC-CTR

Please contact your manager to discuss next steps.

NEGATIVE

YOU MAY ATTEND YOUR SHIFT.

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

INVALID

PLEASE REPEAT THE RAT.

If two invalid test results are received, please contact your manager to discuss next steps.

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