

HALTON REGION PUBLIC HEALTH • Office of the Medical Officer of Health

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TO: Halton Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, other Healthcare Providers and Pharmacists

FROM: Dr. Joanna Oda, Associate Medical Officer of Health

DATE: September 26, 2023

RE: How to order Rapid Antigen Tests for distribution to your patients

QUICK FACTS

- Health care providers, including physicians and pharmacists, can now order COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) for distribution to their patients through the Provincial Antigen Screening Program (PASP).
- COVID-19 RATs are also available for local physicians to order through Halton Region Public Health.

KEY MESSAGES FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

- The Ministry of Health has expanded access to the PASP to Health care providers who can now order and distribute RATs to patients.
- The distribution of RATs will not be reimbursed by the Ontario Government and RATs must be distributed to patients free-of-charge.
- Health care providers can continue to order RATs for their employees and can now also order RATs to distribute to their patients as “eligible persons” under the Provincial Antigen Screening Program (PASP) Agreement.
- Health care providers who are not currently enrolled in the PASP and who would like to distribute RATs to their employees and/or patients, may enroll at [Provincial Antigen Screening Program | COVID-19 \(coronavirus\) in Ontario](#)
- Once the health care provider is enrolled in PASP, the COVID-19 RATs can be ordered from the [PPE Supply Portal](#).
- For assistance in creating an account or accessing an existing account, or for any questions about orders and shipment, please contact sco.supplies@supplyontario.ca.
- Local physicians can also continue to order COVID-19 RATs for distribution to patients through Halton Region Public Health. Tests can be ordered by calling 311 or emailing Access.Halton@halton.ca. Please indicate the number of boxes you would like to order. Each box contains five tests. Rapid antigen tests will be distributed with your next vaccine order, upon request.
- PCR testing is also available for [eligible patients](#) at a number of locations in Halton. The list can be found [here](#). Physicians may also offer PCR testing in their offices.

KEY MESSAGES FOR PATIENTS

- Information regarding testing and treatment for COVID-19 as well as what to do if exposed to someone with symptoms or if they test positive can be found at: [Halton - COVID-19](#).

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- For more information about the expansion of the PASP to allow healthcare providers to distribute RATs to patients, please contact the ministry at PASP@ontario.ca

Please report all suspected/confirmed cases of [Diseases of Public Health Significance](#) (only report COVID-19 cases occurring in high-risk settings) to Public Health immediately by calling 311, 905-825-6000 or toll free at 1-866-442-5866.

PLEASE PROVIDE A COPY TO ALL PHYSICIANS IN YOUR OFFICE AND/OR POST IN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS AND PHYSICIAN LOUNGES. IF YOU HAVE ANY ISSUES WITH THIS ATTACHMENT, PLEASE EMAIL DOCTORS@HALTON.CA.