STAY SAFE MN

Reporting Results of COVID-19 Tests Performed Inside Your Long-term Care Facility

10/11/2021

Point of care (POC) antigen tests should be interpreted in the context of the prevalence of infection or disease, the device's performance characteristics and instructions for use, and the patient's clinical signs, symptoms, and history. Follow the manufacturer's recommendation for interpreting and reporting test results to tested individuals.

Reporting requirements for POC antigen testing

The following instructions on reporting COVID-19 do not apply to testing completed by an external laboratory. If you send specimens to a reference laboratory for testing, the laboratory will do the reporting. If you conduct the testing inside your facility, you are acting as a laboratory and must report results to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or Minnesota Department of Health (MDH). These instructions are for organizations using POC antigen tests provided by the federal Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

All COVID-19 test results, positive and negative, performed on a laboratory testing platform inside your facility must be reported within 24 hours. There are two ways for long-term care (LTC) facilities to report these results:

- CDC National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Long-term Care (LTC) Facility COVID-19 Module
- Submission of a reporting spreadsheet through a secure online portal

Federally certified nursing facilities

Federally certified nursing facilities must report POC COVID-19 test results, including antigen test results, but they may choose to report through the CDC NHSN LTC COVID-19 Module or directly to MDH. As of January 8, 2021, NHSN reporting of POC results is no longer required to meet federal HSS requirements. Facilities can still choose to report if they have the required Level 3 NHSN access. Reporting to NHSN for facilities able to do so is preferred by MDH. However, facilities can also choose to report POC antigen test results directly to MDH (see below for details). If reporting to NHSN, facilities should not report directly to MDH. CDC will send test results to MDH.

- CDC: NHSN LTCF COVID-19 Module (www.cdc.gov/nhsn/ltc/covid19/index.html)
- HHS: COVID-19 Pandemic Response, Laboratory Data Reporting: CARES Act Section 18115 (www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/covid-19-laboratory-data-reporting-guidance.pdf)

Assisted living facilities

Assisted living facilities are encouraged to report through NHSN, although it is not required. Until facilities have completed CDC Level 3 access requirements to report into NHSN and begin reporting by that route, POC antigen test reporting to MDH should continue. Once successfully reporting to NHSN, facilities can stop reporting to MDH. CDC will send test results to MDH.

Assisted living facilities that do not choose to report through the CDC NHSN module should continue to report antigen test results directly to MDH (see below for details).

Reporting POC antigen test results to MDH

MDH has developed specific Microsoft Excel antigen test reporting templates for each antigen test platform used in LTC facilities. Because MDH has an automated procedure for processing laboratory test results files, we ask that you use the Excel reporting templates exactly. Select the template that aligns with your testing product, click on the link, and save the template to your computer.

- Quidel Sofia Antigen testing equipment: MDH COVID-19 Test Results QSA Spreadsheet (Excel) (www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/ltcantigenqsa.xlsx)
- BD Veritor Antigen testing equipment: MDH COVID-19 Test Results BVA Spreadsheet (Excel) (www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/ltcantigenbva.xlsx)
- Abbott BinaxNow COVID-19 Ag Card: MDH COVID-19 Test Results ABN Spreadsheet (Excel) (www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/ltcantigenabn.xlsx)
- Access Bio CareStart equipment: MDH COVID-19 Test Results ACS Spreadsheet (Excel) (www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/labantigenacs.xlsx)

Instructions are available for filling in the spreadsheet templates.

- How to Report COVID-19 Test Results Using a Spreadsheet (www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/ltcantigenkey.pdf)

Use the secure online portal for spreadsheet submission.

- Find out how to use the portal and create an account: Uploading Lab Results to MDH RePortal (www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/reportal.html)
- Contact health.ElectronicDiseaseReporting@state.mn.us for further assistance.
- DO NOT email test results to MDH.

Reporting POC antigen test results to NHSN

Antigen test reporting is just one part of the CDC LTC COVID-19 Module in NHSN. LTC facilities reporting to any part of the LTC COVID-19 Module need to enroll in NHSN. Some facilities (e.g., federally certified nursing facilities) have already acquired limited Secure Access Management Service (SAMS) access to NHSN earlier in the COVID-19 pandemic in order to complete required CMS reporting through the LTCF COVID-19 Module Reporting Pathways.

LTC facilities that wish to report POC SARS-CoV-2 testing results into the NHSN application but have limited access to the COVID-19 Module only (specifically, no SAMS grid card) will need to upgrade their NHSN SAMS access from Level 1 to Level 3. Use the information available on CDC's website or email the NHSN program for assistance.

- CDC: Increasing LTCF SAMS Level Access to NHSN (www.cdc.gov/nhsn/ltc/covid19/sams-access.html)
- Contact NHSN@cdc.gov with the subject line "Enhancing Data Security" to begin upgrading SAMS access.

Facilities enrolling in NHSN for the first time should follow the instructions on CDC's website. Learn more by reviewing CDC's LTC COVID-19 Module Enrollment Refresher from May 2020. Enrolled facilities should not re-enroll when starting to report POC antigen test results.

- CDC: 5-Step Enrollment for Long-term Care Facilities (www.cdc.gov/nhsn/ltc/enroll.html)
- CDC: LTCF COVID-19 Module Enrollment Refresher [YouTube video – 40 min] (https://youtu.be/iLb_rRgTvUw)
- CDC: LTCF COVID-19 Module Enrollment Refresher Slideset (www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/covid19/ltcf/covid19-enroll-refresh-508.pdf)
- CDC: Guidance on Email Use for NHSN and SAMS Registration (www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/ltc/nhsn-sams-registration-email-use.pdf)

Required MDH case reporting

Additional clinical and demographic information on positive cases must be reported as soon as possible via a secure web form. This information is required for all resident and staff cases associated with your facility, whether tested with a POC antigen test or with RT-PCR by a reference laboratory.

- The secure web-based case report form can be found at Submitting Clinical Information on Long Term Care COVID-19 Cases and Reporting Discrepant Laboratory Results (redcap-c19.web.health.state.mn.us/redcap/surveys/?s=H8MT9TTNCD).
- If you conduct RT-PCR testing to confirm a positive antigen test, and the RT-PCR test is negative, tell us about the discrepant result by filling in the case report form (same link as above) and selecting

"Discordant results in a staff or resident (positive antigen test followed by a negative PCR collected less than 48 hours later)."

Other federal reporting requirements

Both the MDH and CDC NHSN reporting pathways incorporate the United States HHS reporting guidance for laboratory data (linked below). You will not need to report laboratory results separately to HHS. MDH or CDC will report these results on your behalf.

- HHS: COVID-19 Pandemic Response, Laboratory Data Reporting: CARES Act Section 18115 (www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/covid-19-laboratory-data-reporting-guidance.pdf)
- HHS: Frequently Asked Questions: Laboratory Data Reporting for COVID-19 Testing (www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/laboratory-data-reporting-for-covid-19-testing-faqs.pdf)
- CMS: Interim Final Rule (IFC), CMS-3401-IFC (www.cms.gov/medicareprovider-enrollment-and-certificationsurveycertificationgeninfopolicy-and-memos-states-and/interim-final-rule-ifc-cms-3401-ifc-updating-requirements-reporting-sars-cov-2-test-results-clia)

Facilities must continue to report other COVID-19 information to the CDC LTC COVID-19 Module in NHSN.

- CMS: QSO-20-29-NH (www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-29-nh.pdf)

Reporting details for specific antigen test systems

The information in this section is only for reference. The pre-formatted Microsoft Excel reporting spreadsheets linked to in the above section, *Reporting POC Antigen Test Results to MDH*, contain the codes specific to each type of SARS-CoV-2 antigen testing equipment used in LTC facilities.

Quidel Sofia SARS Antigen FIA

Testing sites using the Quidel Sofia SARS Antigen FIA must use the test and result codes shown in Table 1. These data fields align with the required fields provided in the MDH reporting spreadsheet. Spreadsheet column letters that align with data fields are provided.

Table 1: Test and result codes required for reporting of Quidel Sofia results

Test Performed Description	Test_performed_code (Column AC)	Test_result_coded (Column AD)	Test_result_description (Column AE)
SARS coronavirus+SARS coronavirus 2 Ag [Presence] in Respiratory specimen by Rapid immunoassay	95209-3	260373001	Positive

Test Performed Description	Test_performed_code (Column AC)	Test_result_coded (Column AD)	Test_result_description (Column AE)
SARS coronavirus+SARS coronavirus 2 Ag [Presence] in Respiratory specimen by Rapid immunoassay	95209-3	260415000	Not detected
SARS coronavirus+SARS coronavirus 2 Ag [Presence] in Respiratory specimen by Rapid immunoassay	95209-3	455371000124106	Invalid
SARS coronavirus+SARS coronavirus 2 Ag [Presence] in Respiratory specimen by Rapid immunoassay	95209-3	720735008	Presumptive positive

Users of the Quidel Sofia must use the specimen sources and codes shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Specimen sources and codes required for reporting of Quidel Sofia results

Specimen_type_description (Column AK)	Specimen_type_code (Column AL)
Nasopharyngeal swab	258500001
Nasal swab	445297001

BD Veritor System for rapid detection of SARS-CoV-2

Testing sites using the BD Veritor must use the test and result codes shown in Table 3. These data fields align with the required fields provided in the MDH reporting spreadsheet.

Table 3: Test and result codes required for reporting of BD Veritor results

Test Performed Description	Test_performed_code (Column AC)	Test_result_coded (Column AD)	Test_result_description (Column AE)
SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Ag [Presence] in Respiratory specimen by Rapid immunoassay	94558-4	260373001	Positive
SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Ag [Presence] in Respiratory specimen by Rapid immunoassay	94558-4	260415000	Not detected
SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Ag [Presence] in Respiratory specimen by Rapid immunoassay	94558-4	455371000124106	Invalid

Test Performed Description	Test_performed_code (Column AC)	Test_result_coded (Column AD)	Test_result_description (Column AE)
SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Ag [Presence] in Respiratory specimen by Rapid immunoassay	94558-4	720735008	Presumptive positive

Users of the BD Veritor must use the specimen sources and codes shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Specimen sources and codes required for reporting of BD Veritor results

Specimen_type_description (Column AK)	Specimen_type_code (Column AL)
Nasal swab	445297001

Abbott BinaxNOW COVID-19 Ag Card

Testing sites using the Abbott BinaxNOW COVID-19 Ag Card must use the test and result codes shown in Table 5. These data fields align with the required fields provided in the MDH reporting spreadsheet.

Table 5: Test and result codes required for reporting of Abbott BinaxNOW results

Test Performed Description	Test_performed_code (Column AC)	Test_result_coded (Column AD)	Test_result_description (Column AE)
SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid protein antigen	94558-4	10828004	Positive
SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid protein antigen	94558-4	260385009	Negative
SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid protein antigen	94558-4	455371000124106	Invalid
SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid protein antigen	94558-4	720735008	Presumptive positive

Users of the Abbott BinaxNOW must use the specimen sources and codes shown in Table 6.

Table 6: Specimen sources and codes required for reporting of Abbott BinaxNOW results

Specimen_type_description (Column AK)	Specimen_type_code (Column AL)
Nasal swab	445297001

Access Bio CareStart Ag

Testing sites using the Access Bio CareStart COVID-19 Antigen test must use the test and result codes shown in Table 7. These data fields align with the required fields provided in the MDH reporting spreadsheet.

Table 7: Test and result codes required for reporting of Access Bio CareStart results

Test Performed Description	Test_performed_code (Column AC)	Test_result_coded (Column AD)	Test_result_description (Column AE)
SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid protein antigen	94558-4	260373001	Detected
SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid protein antigen	94558-4	260415000	Not Detected
SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid protein antigen	94558-4	455371000124106	Invalid
SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid protein antigen	94558-4	720735008	Presumptive positive

Users of the Access Bio CareStart COVID-19 Antigen test must use the specimen sources and codes shown in Table 8.

Table 8: Specimen sources and codes required for reporting of Abbott BinaxNOW results

Specimen_type_description (Column AK)	Specimen_type_code (Column AL)
Nasopharyngeal swab	258500001
Anterior nasal swab	697989009