

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Guidance For Rapid Antigen Point-of-Care Testing

General information for Healthcare Practitioners (HCP) regarding collection of anterior nasal swabs from ambulatory populations:

- The goal is to collect anterior nasal swabs for rapid antigen point-of-care testing.
- Ideally, specimen collection is performed in one room of the facility. One individual is tested at a time with the door closed. If a room is not available, another possibility is to collect specimens outside if the weather allows.
- Swabbing does NOT need to be done in an airborne infection isolation room (AIIR). It is not considered an aerosol generating procedure.
- Team of two people preferred in high volume testing sites: Specimen Collector and Test Operator.
- In accordance with CDC infection control guidance, all people to be tested should practice source control by wearing a facemask. While waiting to be swabbed, all people should wear a mask and maintain at least 6 feet of distance from one another.

Role	Measures to Take	PPE to Use	Change-Out Frequency or Re-Use Recommendation	Notes
<p>Specimen Collector Collects anterior nasal swabs from the client using swab in the test kit</p> <p>Testing Operator Responsible for performing the rapid antigen test.</p> <p>(In certain scenarios, the specimen collector may serve as the testing operator.)</p>	<p>-Test kits can be stored at 2 ° to 30 ° C, but must come to room temperature (15° to 30° C) for actual use.</p> <p>-Use the expiration date on the outside test kit box.</p> <p>- Ensure all reagents and testing supplies are disposed of in the Biohazard bag after use.</p>	<p>Full PPE = N95 respirator, eye protection, gloves and gown.</p> <p>Eye protection should either be tight-fitting goggles or face shield. “Safety glasses” are not preferred since leaks can occur around eyes.</p>	<p>-Gloves should be changed and hand hygiene performed, after each person’s specimen is obtained.</p> <p>-Change gown if soiled, damaged, or more than minimal contact with surfaces that may be contaminated.</p> <p>-If minimal contact with person being tested/environment, no need to change gown.</p> <p>-Change N95 respirator and/or eye protection if damaged or soiled.</p> <p>-N95 respirator should not be worn for more than 8 hours without being changed.</p>	<p>For further information on PPE guidance, refer to the link below.</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/using-ppe.html.</p>