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On March 5, 2021, the Ontario Ministry of Health updated a series of materials related to COVID-19 testing in Ontario. Updates were made to regulations under the *Laboratory Specimen Collection Centre Licensing Act, R.S.O. 1991, c. L.1* authorising the use of Health Canada Approved Point-of-Care (POC) Rapid COVID-19 tests by individuals in accordance with the product label.

The Ministry's Emergency Operations Centre has since confirmed to the College that this recent update authorises all regulated health care professionals, including naturopaths, **who have the knowledge skill and judgment**, to perform POC Rapid COVID-19 testing in accordance with the product label and Guidance Update documents.

Any Point of Care Rapid Test performed by a health professional that yields a positive result, including POC molecular test results, and preliminary positive results obtained through POC antigen tests, must be reported to the local public health unit in accordance with the [Health Protection and Promotion Act, R.S.O 1990, c.H.7.](#)

Any testing performed by a naturopath must be done using only the Health Canada approved products and in accordance with the applicable College standards of practice and Ministry guidance including but not limited to [COVID-19 Provincial Testing Guidance Update](#), [Considerations for Antigen Point-of-Care Testing](#), and [Considerations for Privately Initiated Testing](#).

#### Resources:

- [COVID-19 Quick Reference Public Health Guidance on Testing and Clearance](#)
- [Rapid\(POC\) Molecular Test – Testing Guidance](#)
- [COVID-19 Provincial Testing Guidance Update](#)
- [COVID-19 Guidance: Considerations for Privately Initiated Testing](#)
- [COVID-19 Guidance: Considerations for Antigen Point-of-Care Testing](#)

- [Ontario Regulation 682 – Laboratories](#)
- [Health Protection and Promotions Act](#)
- [Standard of Practice for Laboratory Testing](#)
- [Standard of Practice for Collecting Clinical Samples](#)
- [Standard of Practice for Point of Care Testing](#)



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