



Get Involved with the Rapid Antigen Testing Initiative for COVID-19 in Congregate Living Centers



What is this initiative about?

The overall goal of this initiative is support rapid antigen testing across congregate living settings and to explore the most optimal implementation methods. We hope that this initiative will help to reduce the risk of outbreaks and the burden that outbreaks can have on staff, residents, and partners in shared living settings.

To enhance our understanding of how to optimize rapid antigen testing, this initiative aims to determine its barriers, facilitators, usefulness, and sustainability. The project also hopes to determine the economic burden or benefit that rapid antigen testing poses on shared living settings as well as the impact of rapid testing on transmission, work absences and service utilization.



What is involved?

Participation in this initiative will include rapid antigen testing for COVID-19 at your site for all individuals who are either symptomatic or who been exposed and remain asymptomatic. You will be asked to track and share testing results and other information regarding the implementation of rapid antigen testing with the KTP team.

The following data will be collected:

- Rapid antigen test results
- Tracking logs
- Demographic information at the site and patient level
- Brief informative interviews with interested staff
- NP swab for PCR testing for a subsample of individuals who receive rapid antigen testing



Who is eligible to participate?

We are looking for long term care homes and retirement homes within Toronto and the GTA.



What is in it for you?

Your site will be provided with rapid antigen testing kits, a Sofia-2 Analyzer, and compensation for initiative activities that your staff take part in. Additionally, training for administering rapid antigen testing using the Sofia-2 Analyzer will be provided.



How do you get involved?

If your site is interested in participating in this initiative, please contact Meryl Bloom at Meryl.Bloom@unityhealth.to