

Buying Rapid Antigen Tests



What you need to know

Who can buy a Rapid Antigen Test?

The TGA have established conditions of supply for Rapid Antigen Tests. More information is available on the following page.

How can I access a supervising health practitioner?

We are able to provide you with a supervising Registered Health Practitioner to train, oversee and be available during your testing process. Contact us for more details.

Can I get training?

Yes, online and face to face training is available in the use of the test kit. Speak to your provider about training.

What is the difference between tests?

The difference between the tests is the amount of time it takes to get a result and the sensitivity and specificity.

The best of these kits deliver sensitivity of above 90% (the ability to pick up the virus if it is there) and specificity of 100% (the chance that a positive result is actually positive).

Who can perform a Rapid Antigen Test?

Tests can be performed by anyone under the overall supervision of a Registered Health Practitioner and must be trained in the correct use and interpretation of the tests.

Can I purchase a Rapid Antigen Test for myself?

No. At this moment, you are not permitted to purchase a rapid antigen test for personal use.

What is covered in training?

Training covers sample collection, the test procedure, interpretation of test results, use of Gardian Test Tracker software, infection control procedures including collecting and handling potentially infectious specimens.

Where can I get more information ?

A number of Rapid Antigen Test Kits were approved by the TGA in Aug 2020. The TGA provides updates on the purchase and use of Rapid Antigen Tests. [Click here](#) to visit the TGA website.

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The tests can be supplied to:

- Registered medical practitioners or paramedics, or an organisation, business or institution that employs or engages a registered medical practitioner or paramedic to perform or oversee performance of the test. The tests can only be used to test employees or contractors of the organisation, business or institution, or a patient under the direct care of the medical practitioner or the paramedic.
- Residential care (disability and rehabilitation facilities) and aged care facilities that employ or engage health practitioners (for example, nurses) to conduct or perform the test. If the residential care or aged care facilities provide care in the home this condition would also allow for performance of the test to be conducted by a health practitioner or paramedic. The tests can only be used to test residents, staff of, or visitors to, the residential care or aged care facility, or clients and staff of the home care service provider.
- Organisations, businesses, or institutions that employ or engage health practitioners or paramedics to conduct or oversee performance of the tests. For example, rapid antigen tests are being used in the mining sector consistent with these conditions. The tests can only be used to test staff or students of the organisation, business or institution, or a person who is a patient of a registered dental practitioner who requires an emergency dental procedure.
- The tests can also be supplied to accredited laboratories and to Commonwealth, state or territory government departments, in cooperation with their relevant health departments.