



July 15, 2022

To whom it may concern:

Re: Point of Care Testing for COVID-19 - Diagnostic Accreditation Program Accreditation and Results Reporting

Further to my letters dated June 17, 2020, March 16, 2021 and July 30, 2021 regarding testing for COVID-19 in British Columbia, I am writing to update my direction as follows:

1. Any site, laboratory, or company that charges clients for symptomatic or asymptomatic point of care testing (POCT) for COVID-19 is required to receive full independent accreditation through the Diagnostic Accreditation Program (DAP) administered by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC.
2. Any site, laboratory, or company that performs asymptomatic or symptomatic POCT for screening purposes at no cost to the client is required to follow the public health quality assurance process from the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) Provincial Health Laboratory, if they are not DAP accredited. Individual sites do not require independent accreditation through the DAP. BCCDC will support testing, training, oversight, quality standards, processes, quality control and requirements and ensure that critical quality processes are in place and tracked. Please follow the PHSA program for workplaces on the BCCDC Rapid Testing for Workplaces webpage (<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/testing/rapid-covid-19-point-of-care-screening-program>).
3. Regulated health care providers and laboratories in BC are **not** required to report positive COVID-19 POCT results to public health, unless the medical health officer notifies that positive COVID-19 POCT tests must be reported in a certain form and manner, as required under the *Public Health Act* and Reporting Information Affecting Public Health Regulation.
4. Sites where POCT does not involve regulated health care providers in BC are not legally required to report positive COVID-19 POCT results to public health.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Henry
OBC, MD, MPH, FRCPC
Provincial Health Officer