

## COVID-19 Rapid Testing with ID NOW™: An Overview

### 1. What is the purpose of rapid molecular testing in Ontario?

- I. To ensure timely and equitable access to therapeutics to all eligible patients, and;
- II. To improve timely access to COVID-19 test results in northern, rural, remote, and Indigenous communities.

### 2. Why is rapid molecular testing necessary?

- Molecular tests (lab-based PCR, rapid molecular tests) is the gold-standard test for confirming COVID diagnosis.
- Lab-based PCR tests can have long turnaround time (up to 24 hours) and may require patients to make multiple trips to clinic
- Not everyone can have timely access to lab-based PCR tests.

### 3. What is Abbott ID NOW™?

- It is a rapid molecular test that identifies the presence of SARS-CoV-2 viral RNA in swab samples collected from individuals suspected of COVID-19.
- Authorized for use by trained operators who are proficient in performing the test using the ID NOW™ analyzer in point-of-care settings.
- It provides test results in 15 minutes.



### 4. What are the requirements to deploy ID NOW™?

- ID NOW™ test should only be used in accordance with the [provincial testing guidance](#).
- All test results need to be reported through Ontario Laboratory Information System (OLIS) or via Ontario Health's web-based app, Mobile Orders and Results Entry (MORE).
  - Must have a Health Information Custodian and ordering clinician for MORE.
- Routine quality control must be completed at least on a weekly basis.

### 5. Who can we contact if we are interested in deploying ID NOW™?

- Email [covid19testing@ontariohealth.ca](mailto:covid19testing@ontariohealth.ca) for an assessment of your site's eligibility for ID NOW.