



November 10, 2020

**ILLINOIS HEALTH AND HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Chief Executive Officers, Member Hospitals and Health Systems
Chief Operating Officers
Chief Medical Officers
Chief Nursing Officers
Chief Quality Officers
Chief Financial Officers
Emergency Preparedness Contacts
Emergency Department Directors
Behavioral Constituency Section
Government Relations Personnel
In-House Counsel
Public Relations Directors

FROM: A.J. Wilhelmi, President & CEO
Tim Nuding, Senior Vice President, Member Services & Corporate Finance
Keneatha Johnson, Director, Quality, Safety and Health Policy

SUBJECT: IDPH Expanding Access to BinaxNow Rapid Tests to All Illinois Hospitals

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) is expanding access to Abbott BinaxNOW rapid tests to all Illinois hospitals. To request BinaxNOW shipments directly from the IDPH, go to this link: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/c4f6706179d64417bfd773c3677a9b00>

Background

The Federal Government has begun a distribution program of a new antigen test: the Abbott BinaxNOW. The Abbott BinaxNOW test is a fast-acting antigen test granted an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to detect the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 viral protein. The test is administered through an anterior nares swab and then insertion, with reagent, into a credit-card sized test. These tests are inexpensive, point of care (POC) tests with results available within 15 minutes.

Instructions for Requesting BinaxNOW

All antigen tests, positive and negative, must be reported to IDPH within 24 hours. All hospitals must ensure that they can report antigen test results through the State's ELR system OR that they have registered in IDPH's Redcap reporting system for antigen testing.

- Register in IDPH's reporting system with the facility's CLIA certificate number at: <https://redcap.link/dph.illinois.gov.pocccovid19registration>.
 - CLIA number, phone number, ordering provider, facility name, address, phone number, type of testing platform, and point of contact email and phone number will be required.
- Once the entity's registration has been processed, the individual who submitted the registration will receive an email with a link to begin reporting. This link is unique to the facility and can be shared with facility staff who will be reporting results.

Initial Allocation and Future Requests

Hospitals requesting tests will receive one shipment (640 tests) as an initial allocation. Hospitals are strongly encouraged to expeditiously utilize these tests as they see fit. Hospitals may also reference the IDPH Rapid Point-Of-Care Testing for COVID-19 for Providers Guidance [here](#).

After at least 100 tests have been utilized and reported from the first shipment, the hospital may submit a request for an additional shipment. All subsequent requests, after the first two shipments, will be fulfilled based on availability of tests, which is determined by federal allocation of tests to states and other factors.

****Please Note:*** All hospitals requesting BinaxNOW tests must comply with [*Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments \(CLIA\) regulations*](#). Any laboratory or testing site that intends to report patient-specific test results must first obtain a CLIA waiver and meet all requirements to perform testing.

Training

In order to assure the efficacy of the BinaxNOW test, anyone administering the test must attend a training. Live virtual trainings are offered via Webex at the times found [here](#). Additional self-guided set up and training resources can be accessed [here](#).

For questions, please email: DPH.AntigenTesting@illinois.gov.

If you still have difficulty navigating the process, please contact IHA's Abby Radcliffe at 217-541-1178 or aradcliffe@team-iha.org.