Serving the community in the areas of public health, social services, children's services, housing and long-term care.

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## Memo

To: H-N Health Care Providers

**From:** Infectious Disease and COVID Response Team

Date: August 1, 2023

Re: Rapid Antigen Testing Kits

Dear Colleagues,

The Haldimand Norfolk Health Unit has been advised by the CMOH office that the Province of Ontario has discontinued its broad distribution of COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Tests (RAT). Public Health Units across the province have been asked to consider community distribution through existing public health services and community partners.

HNHU will be distributing RAT kits at the Health Unit office locations:

Simcoe: 12 Gilbertson Drive, Simcoe, N3Y 4N5 Caledonia: 100 Haddington Street, Caledonia, N3W 2N4 Dunnville: 117 Forest Street East, Dunnville, N1A 1B9

We anticipate outreach from the Province to health care providers in the coming months to promote RAT distribution to your respective patients. In advance of that outreach, you can access the Provincial Antigen Screening Program onboarding platform here: Ontario Together to access the PPE Supply Portal. For those already on boarded to the program, you can continue to order directly through the PPE Supply Portal.

Health care providers can access RAT kits directly from HNHU as an interim strategy prior to establishing their PPE Supply Portal account. Please email <a href="idt@hnhss.ca">idt@hnhss.ca</a> to access our program. It is the recommendation of Haldimand Norfolk Health Unit that those individuals considered to be at high risk of severe outcomes from COVID-19 have access to COVID-19 tests at home, and speak with their health care provider in advance about treatment options and develop a treatment plan to avoid obstacles if they become sick.

Thank you,

Infectious Disease Team