

# Symptomatic Possible COVID-19 Cases should seek PCR test at COVID-19 Assessment Centres

Update as of September 2, 2021

We have recently received an increasing number of reports of individuals with symptoms compatible with COVID-19 receiving Antigen Point of Care (POC) tests, rather than the more accurate laboratory-based testing, such as the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test for COVID-19.

As a reminder, any individual with COVID-19 compatible symptoms seeking testing should be referred to their nearest COVID-19 Assessment Centre to complete a **PCR test**. For Assessment Centre details and locations in York Region, please visit the [Symptoms, Transmission and Treatment](#) section of [york.ca/COVID19](http://york.ca/COVID19).

Antigen POC tests are quick and useful for screening purposes and are approved for use only in asymptomatic individuals. They should not be used for diagnosis of COVID-19 in symptomatic individuals or individuals with known close contact with a COVID-19 case. Anyone who tests positive on an antigen POC will need to take a PCR test to confirm COVID-19 infection.

Antigen POC screening is not recommended for individuals who are fully vaccinated or part of an outbreak.

## Contact York Region Public Health

York Region Public Health continues to support workplaces, pharmacies and other organizations with COVID-19 prevention. If you have any questions, contact us directly at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 77280 (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday).

