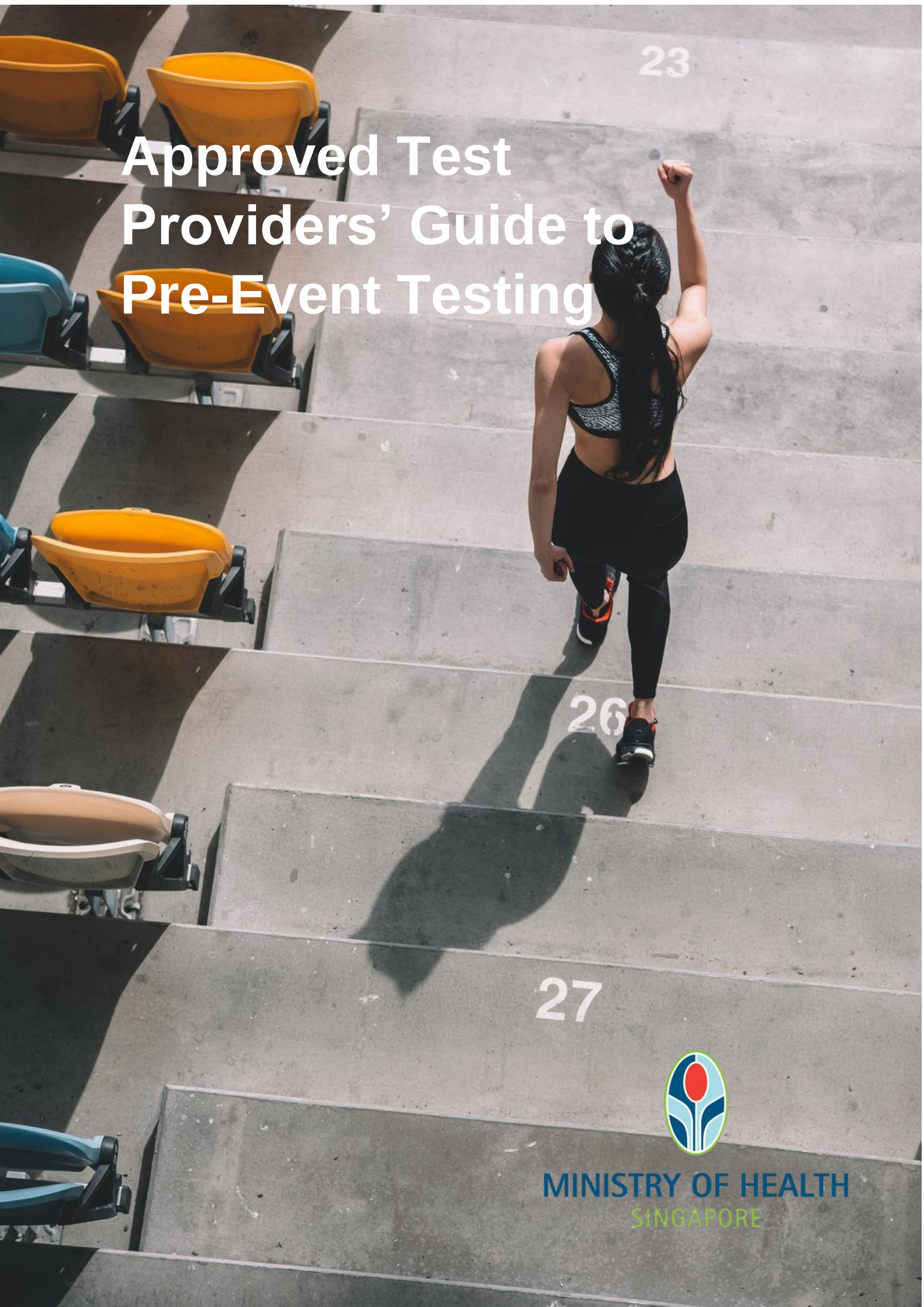


Approved Test Providers' Guide to Pre-Event Testing

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
SINGAPORE

Table of Contents

Previous Versions Released:

1. PURPOSE

1.1 This document is a guide for approved test providers on conducting Antigen Rapid Tests (**"ART"**) for the purposes of Pre-Event Testing (**"PET"**). Approved test providers must comply with the Infectious Diseases Act (IDA) Infectious Diseases (Antigen Rapid Test Providers) Regulations (**"ART Regulations"**). The parties engaging approved test providers to conduct PET for their events, businesses, and activities are referred to as Event Organisers and Relevant Enterprises (**"EOs/REs"**).

1.2 To enable more economic and social activities to resume in a safe manner, the Ministry of Health (**"MOH"**) is implementing the use of PET as one of the measures to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 spread. Individuals who wish to enter the venues where selected events, business, or activities are being conducted are required to obtain a negative COVID-19 test result within a specified period of time, which is referred to as a "Pre-Event Test". There are certain criteria to be met – the test must be an MOH-approved COVID-19 test (see **Para 2.1**), must be valid within a specified duration of time (see **Para 2.2**), and the individual must be able to produce proof of the test result (see **Para 5.15**).

1.3 Please note that the rest of this document refers to persons tested as "individuals".

2. APPROVED TESTS AND DURATION OF VALIDITY

2.1 As of the date of this document[1], only the following COVID-19 tests have been approved by MOH for the purposes of meeting the requirements of PET:

(a) the COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test ("**ART**"); and

(b) the COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction Test ("**PCR Test**[2]").

2.2 The validity of any negative ART or PCR Test result is 24 hours from the time the individual was registered in-person at the testing premises. As such, individuals must get tested:

(a) Before the start of their visit to the venue requiring PET; and

(b) At most 24 hours before the end of their attendance to the venue requiring PET.

2.3 While PCR and ART results are both acceptable for PET, ART is generally more suitable for PET as ART has a much shorter turnaround time (around 30 minutes) compared to PCR tests (which may take up to 48 hours). A shorter turnaround time may mean individuals are able to get their results earlier in time to attend the event, if not, the results are no longer valid for the event by the time individuals receive their results.

[1] The version was issued on 13/7/2021 3:51 pm.
[2] This refers to a Nucleic Acid Test that uses Polymerase Chain Reaction methods to test for the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

2.4 As defined in the ART Regulations, approved test providers must ensure that:

2.4.1 Employees conducting ART only use MOH-approved test kits and in accordance with MOH's method of sampling as specified in Table 1.

Table 1: List of test kits approved by MOH for ART

COVID-19 Test	COVID 19 Test Kits approved by MOH for ART	Method of Sampling
ART	1. BD Veritor™ System for Rapid Detection of SARS-CoV-2	Anterior Nasal, Nasopharyngeal
	2. Standard Q COVID-19 Ag Test	Anterior Nasal, Nasopharyngeal
	3. Roche SARS-CoV-2 Rapid Antigen Test	Anterior Nasal, Nasopharyngeal
	4. Panbio™ COVID-19 Ag Rapid Test Device	Anterior Nasal, Nasopharyngeal
	5. Quidel Sofia SARS Antigen FIA Kit	Anterior Nasal

2.4.2 Reagents (including quality control materials) used when conducting ART are:

(a) registered or provisionally approved by the Health Sciences Authority under the Health Products Act (Cap. 122D)

(b) stored and used under the conditions specified by the manufacturer;

(c) handled in a manner that minimises deterioration or exposure to the environment;

(d) not used beyond the shelf life or expiry date, whichever is earlier; and

(e) labelled with the date of opening and shelf life once opened for use.

2.4.3 For each reagent that is used, the following information is recorded and retained for a period of 2 years after the date it is first opened for use:

(a) the lot number;

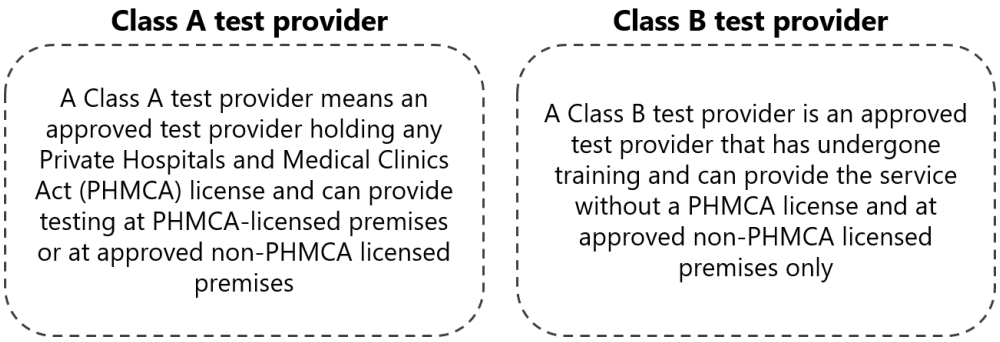
(b) the expiry date;

(c) the personnel who prepared the reagent.

3. TYPES OF APPROVED TEST PROVIDERS

3.1 There are two types of approved test providers – Class A and B. The details on Class A and Class B providers are set out in Diagram 1 below. EOs/REs may engage either types of approved test providers should the event, business, or activity require PET.

Diagram 1: Types of approved test providers



4. GUIDE TO PREPARING FOR PET (BEFORE DAY OF TESTING)

B. STEP 1 – Assess the suitability of the premises for testing

4.1 As defined in the ART Regulations, approved test providers providing PET at PHMCA-licensed or at approved non-PHMCA-licensed should take into consideration the following:

(a) Should have **non-absorbent** flooring, walls and furniture covers, such that:

i. All carpeted area and furniture with absorbent material should be covered with impermeable material to facilitate cleaning (e.g. vinyl/linoleum sheets).

(b) A **well-ventilated** space:

i. Preferably outdoors; or

ii. If in a dedicated room indoors, windows should be open. If air-conditioned, it should be done in zones where air handling units (AHU) are not shared with other guest areas. HEPA filter may be placed at swab ops area, if available. For specific guidance, please refer to the 'Guidance note on improving ventilation and indoor air quality in buildings' (see **go.gov.sg/pet**).

(c) **Sufficient space** to ensure that:

i. All individuals in the Sampling Activity Area (see para 4.3) are seated at least 2m apart unless a physical barrier exists within each swab station;

ii. All individuals should remain at least 1m apart from one another in other areas within testing premises.

C. STEP 2 – Determine the physical setup and manpower requirements

4.2 Once the premises are assessed to be suitable for testing, approved test providers should determine how they wish to configure the setup and the workflow at the testing premises to support PET operations.

4.3 As best practice, approved test providers should have the following (see Diagram 2):

(a) An area for individuals to register for the ART (the **"Registration Area"**), where individuals in the queue must be spaced at least 1m apart from each other;

(b) An area for approved test providers to put on and take off their PPE (the **"Donning and Doffing Area"**);

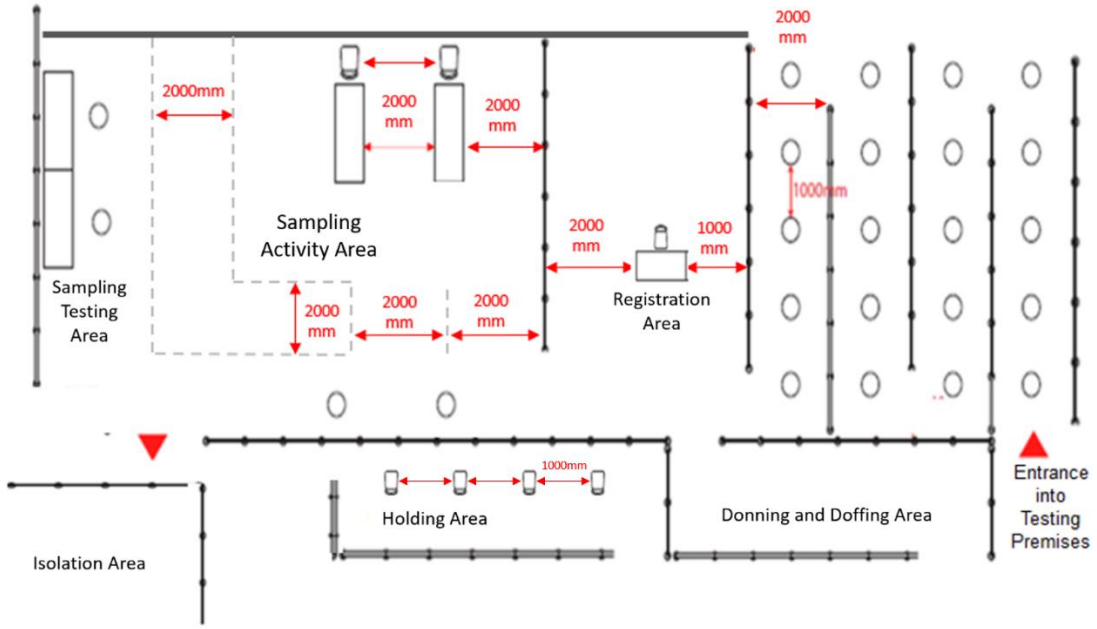
(c) An area for where individuals undergo the removal of a respiratory specimen from the lining of the oral or nasal passage for testing (the **"Sampling Activity Area"**);

(d) An area where respiratory specimen collected from individuals is subjected to an approved test and where results are ascertained and recorded (the **"Sampling Testing Area"**);

(e) An area where individuals may wait while their test results for the ART (the **"Holding Area"**); and

(f) A separate area for the isolation and swabbing of individuals who have been tested ART-positive/invalid (**"Isolation Area"**), if approved test providers decide to provide confirmatory PCR swab services at the same premises.

Diagram 2: Example of a Typical Site Layout of PET at non-PHMCA licence premises



4.4 Once the physical configuration is finalised, approved test providers must comply with the manpower requirements when conducting PET.

4.5 As defined in the ART Regulations, approved test providers must ensure that any individual employed or engaged to perform any regulated activity for ART is a trained personnel who:

(a) where required to perform relevant sampling or testing activity:

i. is a legally qualified medical practitioner;

ii. is a qualified nurse; or

iii. has undergone training to perform the relevant sampling or testing activity, where training is conducted by a specified training provider or persons who is (i) or (ii)

(b) where required to perform a relevant assessment activity:

iv. has obtained any of the following qualifications and has, after obtaining his or her qualifications, acquired at least 3 continuous years of practical experience in clinical laboratory work in Singapore or elsewhere:

a. a degree in Biomedical Science;

b. a degree or diploma in Medical Laboratory Science; or

v. has undergone training to perform the relevant sampling or testing activity, where training is conducted by a specified training provider or persons who is (i), (ii) or (iv).

vi. where required to act as supervisor:

a. is a qualified person who endorses the risk assessment for any premises must supervise any relevant regulated activity at the approved premises

Table 2 describes some of the personnel working in the ART testing premises and some of their roles and responsibilities.

Table 2: Roles and Responsibilities

S/N	Personnel working in the ART premises	Description of Roles and Responsibilities
1	Admin Staff	• Ensure that individuals are briefed of what is expected of them, and that they are registered using an MOH-approved system (see Table 4) • Ensure proper Safe Management Measures (SMMs) are adhered to.
2	Sampling Activity Personnel (e.g. swabber)	• Perform relevant sampling activity (e.g. swabbing) in accordance with test kit manufacturer's instructions, including checking for contraindications • Ensure Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) processes such as disinfecting area before and after swabbing an individual.
3	Safe Management Officers	• Manage individuals in the registration and holding area by ensuring SMMs, answering queries, and communicating instructions
4	Sample Tester	• Conduct relevant testing and assessment activity according to the test kit manufacturer's guidelines and submit the results using an MOH-approved system • Ensure proper IPC processes such as. safe handling and disposal of samples and test kits.
6	Site Supervisors	• Oversee entire PET operation and ensure that all approved test provider requirements are adhered to • If there are many individuals being tested, site

		supervisors should consider appointing supervisors for each of the areas for additional support
7	Ushers/Runners	• Direct individuals on where to go next, and what to do • Transport samples from the Sampling Activity Area to the Sampling Testing Area

D. STEP 3 – Implement Infection Prevention and Control ("IPC") Processes

4.6 To minimise the possibility of infection, approved test providers must ensure that all staff are familiar and compliant with the following IPC Processes. Staff should be adequately trained in the donning and doffing of PPE before being deployed to the testing premises, and staff who need to use an N95 mask must be fitted for the mask beforehand.

4.6.1 Personal Protective Equipment

(a) Approved test providers must ensure that their staff don the minimum PPE required by the tasks they perform. The use of PPE is recommended based on there being safe distancing measures in place, and steps should be taken to ensure compliance with safe distancing, including the use of physical barriers or markings to delineate safe distances. The minimum recommended PPE is specified in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Required PPE for each role/responsibility

S/N	Role/Task	Required PPE
1	Crowd control/runners/ registration	• Surgical mask, at a minimum. If in an enclosed space with poor ventilation and crowd, may consider N95.
2	Supervising ART	• N95 mask • Gown (minimally splash-resistant) • Gloves • Eye protection (face shield or goggles)
3	Performing ART	• N95 mask • Gown (minimally splash-resistant) • Gloves • Eye protection (face shield or goggles)
4	Crowd control at holding area	• Surgical mask, at a minimum. If in an enclosed space with poor ventilation and crowd, may consider N95.

S/N	Role/Task	Required PPE
5	Handling and processing of test samples	• N95 mask • Gown (minimally splash-resistant) • Gloves • Eye protection (face shield or goggles)
6	Interacting with ART-positive/invalid persons for administrative matters	• N95 mask • Gown (minimally splash-resistant) • Gloves • Eye protection (face shield or goggles)
7	Performing confirmatory PCR testing for ART-positive/invalid persons	• N95 masks • Gown (minimally splash-resistant) • Gloves • Eye protection (face shield or goggles)

4.6.2 Infection Control

(a) Approved test providers must thoroughly:

i. Disinfect any equipment and the surrounding area after handling each individual, even if the surfaces are not visibly soiled;

ii. Practise hand hygiene before and after contact with any individual or potentially contaminated surface;

iii. Safely de-gown (i.e. in a way that does not contaminate their clothes underneath) and perform hand hygiene before coming into contact with others.

(b) Approved test providers should also implement Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for managing splashes, contamination, and spillages. Please refer to the following steps for a sample cleaning protocol.

Recommended spill clean-up procedure

1. Cordon off spill area and put up notices to warn people of the presence of biohazardous materials;

2. Wear gloves and protective clothing, including face and eye protection;

3. Cover the spill with cloth or paper towels to contain it;

4. Pour an appropriate disinfectant over the paper towels and the immediately surrounding area (generally, 5% bleach solutions are appropriate);

5. Apply disinfectant concentrically beginning at the outer margin of the spill area, working toward the centre; and

6. After waiting an appropriate amount of time (e.g. 30 mins), clear away the materials; If there is broken glass or other sharps involved, use a dustpan or a piece of stiff cardboard to collect the material and deposit it into a puncture-resistant container for disposal.

Source from WHO's "Laboratory biosafety manual; third edition"

(c) Where possible, approved test providers should reduce the occurrences of common physical touchpoints. Where physical contact is needed, additional safeguards such as frequent disinfection must be taken to minimise the risk of cross infection.

4.6.3 Waste Disposal and Sample Management

(a) Approved test providers should ensure that all biological waste and materials stained with biological waste are safely disposed of by licensed contractors for biohazardous wastes[3].

(b) Approved test providers should dispose of swab sticks, test devices, extraction reagent tubes, and any disposable material stained with biological waste using biohazard bags via the following steps:

i. Cable-tie the biohazard bag securely once it is two-thirds full;

ii. Double-bag by putting the biohazard bag inside another biohazard bag;

iii. Cable-tie the second biohazard bag securely;

iv. Place the double-bagged waste in an identified container at the doffing area; and

v. Ensure that all the double-bagged waste is collected and disposed of by licensed contractors for biohazardous wastes.

(c) Approved test providers should develop processes for handling, packing, storing, and handing over test samples to couriers where applicable. This is to minimise

[3] Licensed Contractors for Biohazardous Wastes: Aroma Chemical Pte Ltd; Tee Medical Services Pte Ltd; Cramoil Singapore Pte Ltd; ECO Special Waste Management Pte Ltd; Modern Asia Environmental Holdings Pte Ltd. Please refer to this website for more information https://www.nea.gov.sg/our-services/pollution-control/hazardous-waste/toxic-waste-control.

the risk of sample contamination, cross-infection, and the potential mixing of specimens. For avoidance of doubt, there should be dedicated transport for the conveyance of infectious substances.

E. STEP 4 – Choose an MOH-approved system for registration and result submission

4.7 Approved test providers are to use MOH-approved systems to record timely, complete, and accurate information on all tests they conduct for PET. For in-clinic settings (i.e. within PHMCA-licensed premises), approved test providers should use the Patient Risk Profile Portal (**"PRPP"**). For all other settings, approved test providers should use either the MOH ART FormSG system (**"MAF"**), or the HPB Swab Registration System (**"SRS"**).

4.8 Approved test providers should familiarise themselves with the guides in Table 4 on how to use each of the above systems to register individuals and submit results for PET.

4.9 As defined in the ART Regulations, approved test providers must register all individuals that they test. To ensure that testing data is captured in a consistent manner, approved test providers must only use PRPP, HPB SRS, or MAF for registration and result submission. Approved test providers must submit the following information of the individuals that they test to MOH, no later than 30 minutes after completing the relevant assessment activity:

a) the name of the individual, nationality, and other identifying particulars required by MOH;

b) the date and time that the relevant sampling activity was carried out;

c) the type of approved test applied to the respiratory specimen;

d) the results of the approved test.

Table 4: User guides for MOH-approved systems for test registration and result submission

S/N	Systems	System URL	Setting for deployment	User Guides
1	Patient Risk Profile Portal (PRPP)	https://php.healthhub.sg/gp	Within PHMCA-licensed premises	See Annex I
2	MOH ART FormSG (MAF)	https://form.gov.sg/#!/5f8dbd6f540c7c001193b26c	At approved non-PHMCA- licensed premises (i.e. offsite premises),	See Annex II

S/N	Systems	System URL	Setting for deployment	User Guides
			where most individuals are registered via walk-ins	
3	HPB Swab Registration System (SRS)	https://swab.hpb.gov.sg.	At approved non-PHMCA- licensed premises (i.e. offsite premises), where most individuals are known in advance	Please email asksrs@hpb.gov.sg for more information, and prefix the subject of the email with "[SRS Onboarding]"

F. STEP 5 – Procure any remaining logistics required

4.10 Please refer to Table 5 for a recommended list of logistics for events site testing (excluding PPE).

Table 5: Common equipment for PET (excluding PPE)

S/N	Area	Logistics Required (excluding PPE)
1	Registration Area	• SafeEntry QR codes or TraceTogether token scanners • Label printer with label paper rolls to print test kit labels/registration slips • Barcode scanner • Internet-enabled laptop • Handphone with active SIM card • Alcohol hand rub solution bottles • Chairs • Tables • Masking tape for safe distancing markers
2	Sampling Activity Area	• Plastic chairs • Plastic tables • Impermeable material to cover any carpeted area or walls with absorbent material (e.g. vinyl/linoleum sheets) • Plastic container with biohazard logo (storage box for specimens) • Biohazard bins and waste bags, sharps bin • Alcohols disinfectant wipes for cleaning surfaces • Alcohol hand rub solution bottles • Boxes of tissue paper

		If ART is involved: • Test kits • Test machine reader (if applicable) If PCR is involved: • Sterile nasopharyngeal swab sticks with specimen collection vial container containing universal transport media (UTM) • Laboratory Request Forms (LRF) with laboratory identifier (to match specimen collection vial container and laboratory request form) • Sample processing equipment (if applicable)
3	Holding Area	• Plastic chairs • Plastic tables
4	Sampling Testing Area	• Test machine reader (if applicable) • Plastic chairs • Plastic tables • Label printer with label paper rolls • Barcode scanner • Internet-enabled laptop • Handphone with active SIM card • Plastic container with biohazard logo (storage box for specimens) • Biohazard bins and waste bags • Timers, permanent markers, and masking tape to organise test samples and track time • Alcohol hand rub solution bottles • Alcohol disinfectant wipes
5	Donning and Doffing areas	• Impermeable material to cover any carpeted area or walls with absorbent material (e.g. vinyl/linoleum sheets) • Biohazard bins and waste bags
6	Others	• Markers on the floor for safe distancing • Directional signages

5. GUIDE TO CONDUCTING PET USING ART (ON DAY OF TESTING)

A. STEP 1 – Register Individuals

5.1 Before commencing registration, approved test providers should screen every individual if they have symptoms of acute respiratory infection (**"ARI"**). Approved test providers should not administer ART to individuals who present with symptoms of ARI. Instead, they should ask such individuals to be reviewed by a healthcare professional and obtain a PCR test at Swab-And-Send-Home Public Health Preparedness Clinics (**"SASH PHPC"**) or Polyclinics if necessary.

5.2 After checking that the individual does not have ARI, approved test providers should confirm that the individual is able to receive SMSes at the mobile number provided. For those who are unable to receive SMSes, registration staff should record the individual's Name, NRIC/FIN/Passport number, and contact details separately.

5.3 Depending on which MOH-approved system is used (see Table 4), approved test providers may be required to print out test kit labels beforehand.

5.4 Finally, approved test providers should only register individuals for ART shortly before sampling and testing activity. This is because the period of validity of a negative test result starts from the time the individual was registered. As such, approved test providers should minimise the time between registration and result submission to avoid short-changing each individual of his/her period of validity.

B. STEP 2 – Sampling Activity

5.5 Approved test providers should check if the individual has any contraindications to the route of administration (e.g. facial fracture, nosebleed, facial surgery in the case of nasal or nasopharyngeal swabs). If so, approved test providers cannot proceed with the test without referring the individual to medical personnel or a procedural supervisor for further assessment.

5.6 Approved test providers should also ask individuals to identify themselves and verify that the claimed identity matches that on the test kit labels. Thereafter, approved test providers should ensure that the test kit labels are securely adhered to the specimen and any other equipment that is tagged to the individual (e.g. sample cartridge, swab stick etc.).

5.7 Approved test providers should then let the individual know what to expect, before collecting the sample from his or her body in line with the manufacturer's specifications. Once the sample is collected, approved test providers can transport the samples to the sampling testing area to be tested.

C. STEP 3 – Testing Activity

5.8 Approved test providers must test the samples in accordance with the test kit manufacturer's instructions.

5.9 As defined in the ART Regulations, if the individual's sample returns as uncertain or invalid, approved test providers are required to re-test the sample, if sufficient sample is collected. If sample is insufficient, the approved test providers must inform the individual, within 2 hours, to undergo another ART test within 24 hours after the first result is available. Approved test providers must not administer another ART in the event that the individual:

(a) has an uncertain or invalid result for two consecutive ART tests ("ART-invalid");

(b) has undergone a previous ART or PCR test where the individual tested positive;

(c) has undergone a previous ART test conducted by another approved test provider in which the test result was uncertain or invalid.

D. STEP 4 – Submit Test Results

5.10 Once the sample has been tested and assessed, approved test providers must record the test result via the same MOH-approved system which was used for registration (see Table 4 above). Approved test providers should not delay or batch the record and submission of test results, as doing so would cause individuals to be notified of their results via SMS late. As a rule of thumb, approved test providers should ensure that each individual's test result is submitted within 30 minutes after completing the relevant assessment activity.

5.11 Approved test providers must submit data on all tests that they conduct regardless of the result received. Approved test providers must take measures to minimise transcription errors, such as using barcode scanners and checking that the information has been correctly entered before submission.

5.12 Should there be transcription errors resulting in submission of wrong results, approved test providers must call the individual to explain that an error has been made and communicate the correct result as well as any required follow-up actions. Approved test providers using PRPP have 14 days (from the first ART result submission on PRPP) to update or amend the ART result on PRPP (Please refer to the Annex I – PRPP User Guide Chapter 4.13 – on ART results amendments). If using MAF, approved test providers will be required to re-submit the result using the same test kit ID.

5.13 To ensure that testing data is captured in a consistent manner, approved test providers must only use PRPP, HPB SRS, or MAF to submit ART results.

5.14 Once the test results have been submitted, approved test providers must notify the individuals of their results. The different possible outcomes and modes of notification are summarised in Table 6.

Table 6: How approved test providers should notify Individuals of their ART results

Result/Type of Test	Mode of notification of ART results
ART-negative	Approved test providers must notify the individuals of their results within 2 hours after the results are available. Individuals will be automatically notified of their results via a system-generated SMS containing a web link to their COVID-19 Test Result Notice (ART) **("COVID-19 Test Result Notice (ART)")**. The Notice contains the individual's test result and how long its validity is, for the purpose of entering premises requiring PET.
ART-positive/ART-invalid (i.e. obtained an inconclusive result twice)	Approved test providers must inform the individuals of their results in-person if they have not left the testing premises, or via a phone call if they have, within 2 hours after the test results is available. Approved test providers must issue a prescribed memo to the individual within 24 hours after results are available. (see **Section E, STEP 5** below).

5.15 Approved test providers who wish to retrieve an individual's test result may do so by appending his/her test kit ID at the end of this URL https://checker.covid-ops.gov.sg/?serial_no=. Alternatively, Approved test providers may scan the QR code shown on any of the following documents to access the individual's COVID-19 Test Result Notice (ART):

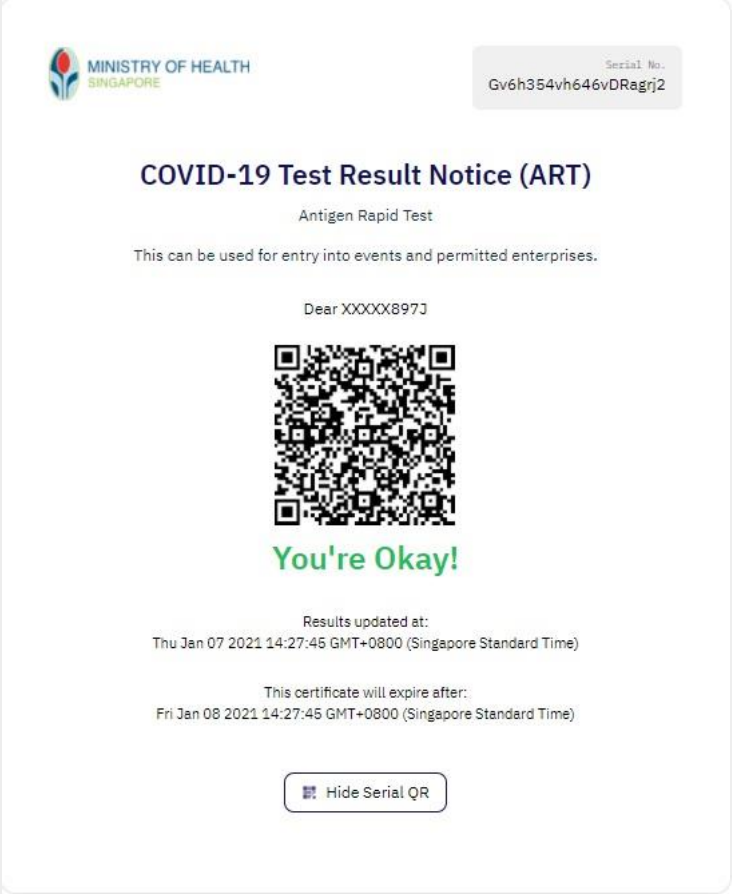
5.15.1 COVID-19 Test Result Notice (ART) itself;

5.15.2 MAF ART Registration Form *(Note: The same QR code used for registration can be used to access one's ART result after the approved test provider has submitted the ART result via one of the MOH-approved systems in Table 4 above); and*

5.15.3 PRPP ART Result Slip.

Please see Table 7 for examples of these documents.

Table 7: Documents containing QR codes that can be used for individual ART results

Acceptable Documents	Images
COVID-19 Test Result Notice (ART) ***This is a weblink that will be sent via SMS to those who are registered for an ART on PRPP/SRS/MAF.***	

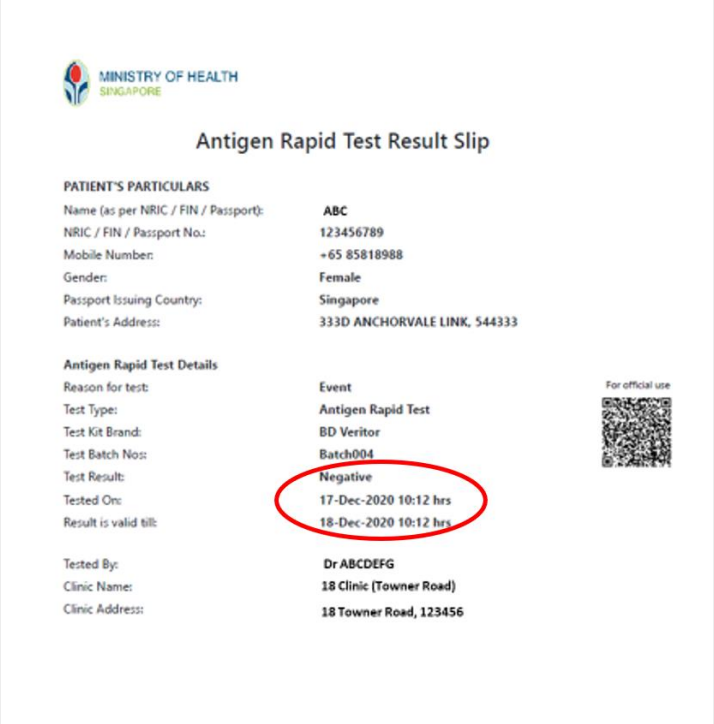
MAF ART Registration Form

This is a card that approved test providers using MAF will be required to print and hand to individuals when they arrive at the testing premises.

PRPP ART Result Slip

This will be issued by clinics in printed, hard-copy form via PRPP.

Ensure result is negative. If ART-positive or ART-invalid, approved test provider to follow-up with necessary actions.



E. STEP 5 – Notify those who test ART-positive/ART-invalid of the actions required of them

5.16 Approved test providers are required to inform those who test ART-positive/ART-invalid of their results and the required followed-up actions as soon as possible, in no more than 24 hours from the time the test result is available. The follow-up actions required of individuals who test ART-positive and ART-invalid are identical.

5.17 After submitting the result of an individual who tested ART-positive or ART-invalid, approved test providers must do the following as soon as possible:

(d) Contact the individual in-person if he/she has not left the premises, and via a phone call otherwise;

(e) Before interacting with the individual in-person, approved test providers must don the appropriate PPE (see Table 3);

(f) Verify the individual's identity and notify the individual of his/her test results thereafter;

(g) Issue the standard MOH memo for ART-positive/ART-invalid persons (please fill in the template in as published on **https://go.gov.sg/artmemo**) and ensure that the individual understands the follow-up actions required of him/her;

(h) Facilitate the individual's government-funded confirmatory PCR swab accordingly:

i. If the approved test provider is a SASH PHPC, perform a confirmatory PCR swab and register the PCR swab on PRPP; Follow the existing SASH workflow on PCR results conveyance.

ii. If the approved test provider is not a SASH PHPC and has no access to PRPP, refer the individual to a SASH PHPC for a confirmatory PCR test by filling in the Referral Note template in **Annex IV.** The SASH PHPC will assume the responsibility on PCR results conveyance and the follow-up actions.

iii. If the approved test provider is not a SASH PHPC and has access to PRPP, refer the individual to a Regional Screening Centre (**"RSC"**) or SASH PHPC via PRPP, and issue a copy of the PRPP Appointment/Referral Slip to the individual[4]. Approved test providers using PRPP are to refer the

[4] Approved test providers using PRPP can generate an "Appointment Slip" for individuals referred to RSCs or a "Referral Slip" for individuals referred to SASH PHPCs. If referring to RSCs, approved test providers are required to book a slot that is as soon as possible. If the next available slot is more than a day later, GPs should consider referring the individual to SASH PHPCs for his/her confirmatory PCR test instead. If the individual has contraindications for nasopharyngeal or mid-turbinate [under oropharyngeal and mid-turbinate] swabs, please refer them to RSCs as selected SASH PHPCs do not perform oropharyngeal swabs.

individuals to RSCs and book an earliest available appointment[5] via PRPP. Approved test providers are responsible for PCR results conveyance and follow-ups to all individuals referred via PRPP.

iv. Approved test providers should inform individuals referred to SASH PHPCs to:

a. call the SASH PHPC to make an appointment in advance; and

b. bring along their Referral Note/Slip and original photo ID (e.g. NRIC) for verification.

(i) If the individual wishes to undergo a rapid PCR testing conducted by an approved ART or PCR Provider who provides such a service, please inform individuals that such tests will **not** be Government-funded. ART or PCR Providers who provide such a service are responsible for PCR results conveyance and follow-up actions.

(j) Obtain the individual's verbal or written acknowledgment of the fact that he/she has understood the follow-up actions required of him/her;

(k) Refuse any request to re-administer ART for the individual; and

(l) In the event the approved test provider fails or is unable to issue the memo to the ART-positive/invalid individual, the approved test provider has to notify MOH upon 24 hours after the test result is available via https://go.gov.sg/artpositivenoncompliance.

5.18 The individual must self-isolate in his/her place of accommodation until he/she receives confirmation that the result of the PCR test is negative. Individuals may only exit their self-isolation for the purposes of seeking medical attention, and must do so only via private transport, taxis, or private hire vehicles with the windows rolled down.

[5] RSCs operate daily (7 days a week) from 9am to 4pm with last appointment at 3.30pm.

6. PET EXEMPTION NOTICE FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE RECOVERED FROM COVID-19

6.1 Individuals are exempted from PET if they have recovered from COVID-19, for a period of 270 consecutive days from their:

a) 1st positive PCR test obtained in Singapore; or

b) 1st positive PCR test obtained overseas, provided that the individual has an accompanying positive Serology test result obtained in Singapore.

6.2 **Any clinic offering ART or PCR testing services listed here can issue PET Exemption Notices to individuals who have recovered from COVID-19.**

6.2.1 For recovered individuals who were first diagnosed with COVID-19 in Singapore, clinics offering ART or PCR testing services should check PRPP for the earliest positive PCR result obtained locally. Please make sure the individual is registered at the clinic (by scanning the PRPP SafeEntry QR code and checking in) for their past results to be shown in the 'Swab Results' tab on PRPP after clicking on 'View patients' swab results history and details'.

6.2.2 Recovered individuals who were first diagnosed with COVID-19 overseas are required to present proof of their earliest overseas positive PCR test result. The clinic offering ART or PCR testing services should then use PRPP to check if the individual had subsequently tested serology positive in Singapore.

(a) If the individual has a local serology positive result, he/she is exempted from PET for 270 days from:

i. 1st positive PCR test obtained in Singapore; or

ii. 1st positive PCR test obtained overseas, provided that the person has an accompanying positive Serology test result obtained in Singapore.

(b) If the individual does not have a local serology positive result, the individual should be informed that he/she is required to undergo a serology test and test serology positive before a PET Exemption Notice can be issued. Should the individual be tested serology negative, he/she will not be exempted from PET.

6.2.3 To issue a PET Exemption Notice to recovered individuals, please fill in the template in **Annex V** following the steps in **Paras 6.2.1 and 6.2.2** above.

6.3 Individuals who have completed the full vaccination regimen in Singapore under the national vaccination program (i.e. using PSAR authorised vaccines) and have had sufficient time to develop sufficient protection (i.e. two weeks after the second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech/Comirnaty or Moderna COVID-19 vaccination) can gain entry

to events, business, or activity that require PET, without the need to undergo PET. Approved test providers may advise individuals accordingly should they wish to undergo ART.

6.4 To view a list of those who are exempted from PET, please refer to Table 8 for the PET Exemption Policy.

Table 8: Exemption Policy for PET

CASES	EXEMPTION POLICY
No PCR, pooled PCR- or, PCR- (> 24 hrs), ART- (> 24 hrs)	Not Exempted from PET
Serology-positive (S+) only	Not Exempted from PET
Discharge memo only without PET Exemption Notice	Not Exempted from PET
Recovered individuals with PET Exemption Notice are exempted from PET for: *a) 270 days from the date of the earliest PCR+ result performed in Singapore or* *b) 270 days from the date of the overseas PCR+ result if S+ result was obtained in Singapore*	Exempted from PET
Recovered individuals *who do not fall into either of the two categories in the row immediately above*	Not Exempted from PET
Vaccinated Individuals who have completed the full vaccination regimen in Singapore under the national vaccination program (i.e. using PSAR authorised vaccines) and have had sufficient time to develop sufficient protection (i.e. two weeks after the second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech/Comirnaty or Moderna COVID-19 vaccination).	Exempted from PET

7. COVID-19 TEST RESULT NOTICE (PCR)

7.1 There may be some cases where individuals manage to undergo a rapid PCR test (e.g. using a Cepheid machine) where the turnaround time is only a couple of hours. In such cases, the individual may wish to obtain a corresponding COVID-19 Test Result Notice (PCR) (**"COVID-19 Test Result Notice (PCR)"**) for the purposes of PET.

7.2 **Individuals are encouraged to obtain their COVID-19 Test Result Notice (PCR) from the provider which conducted the swab for their rapid PCR test.** Individuals may also obtain their notice from any clinic offering ART or PCR testing services. If you are the provider that performed the PCR swab, please fill in the COVID-19 Test Result Notice (PCR) template (see **Annex III**).

7.3 Clinics offering ART or PCR testing services via PRPP may wish to note the following:

(a) To check an individual's PCR test result, please use the search function on PRPP under the 'Swab Results' tab to see if he/she has a corresponding negative PCR test result available (see Diagram 3).

(b) To check the 'Date & Time of Swab of Registration', please use the search function on PRPP under the 'Patient Risk Profile' tab and look up the date and time (see Diagram 4[6]).

(c) Please ask him/her to come to the clinic to obtain the COVID-19 Test Result Notice (PCR), making sure to verify his/her identity against his/her original Government-issued photo identification.

Diagram 3: Search a person's swab results in PRPP

[6] Please note the 'Examination Date' indicated in the 'Swab Results' tab is when the lab has performed the test and not the swab date/time. Please follow step 6.3b to find the swab registration date/time.

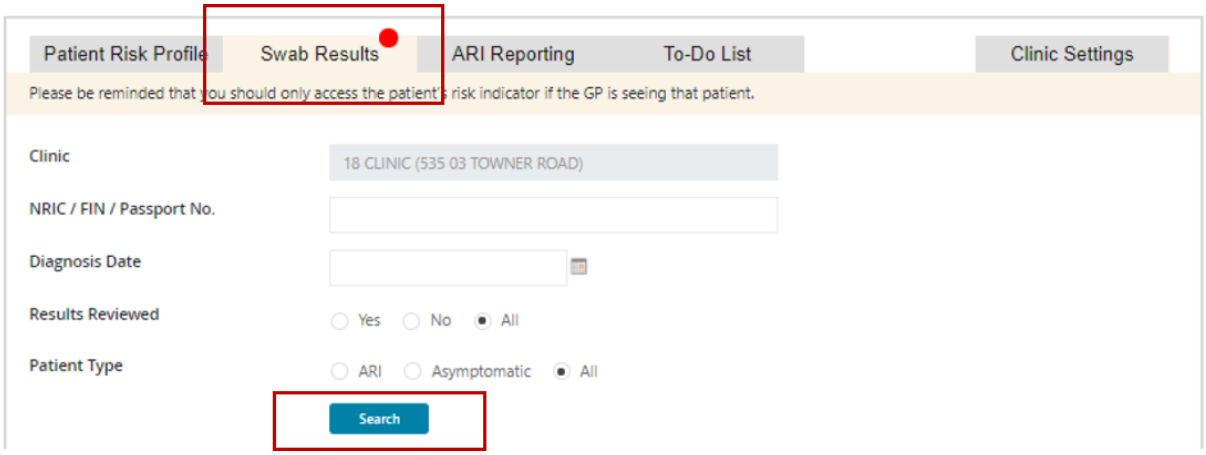
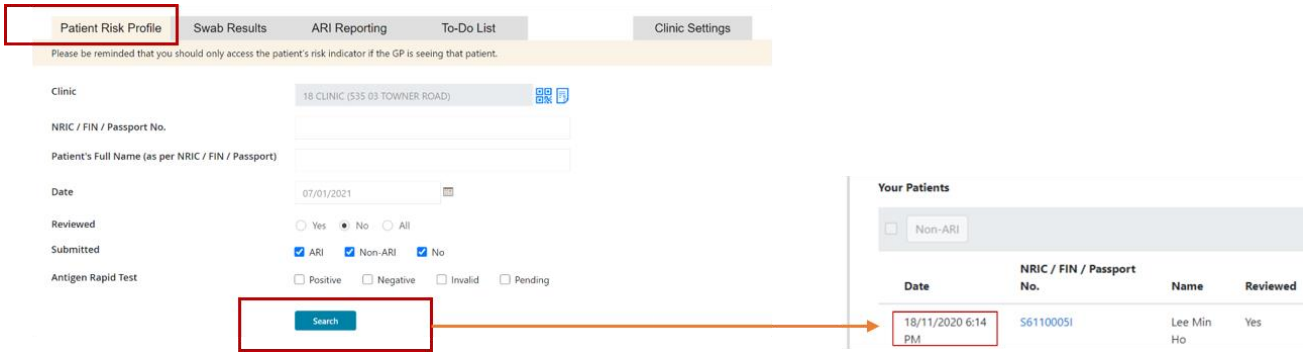

Patient Risk Profile
Swab Results
ARI Reporting
To-Do List
Clinic Settings
Please be reminded that you should only access the patient's risk indicator if the GP is seeing that patient.
Clinic
18 CLINIC (535 03 TOWNER ROAD)
NRIC / FIN / Passport No.
Diagnosis Date
Results Reviewed
Yes
No
All
Patient Type
ARI
Asymptomatic
All
Search

Diagram 4: Search a person's time of registration in PRPP

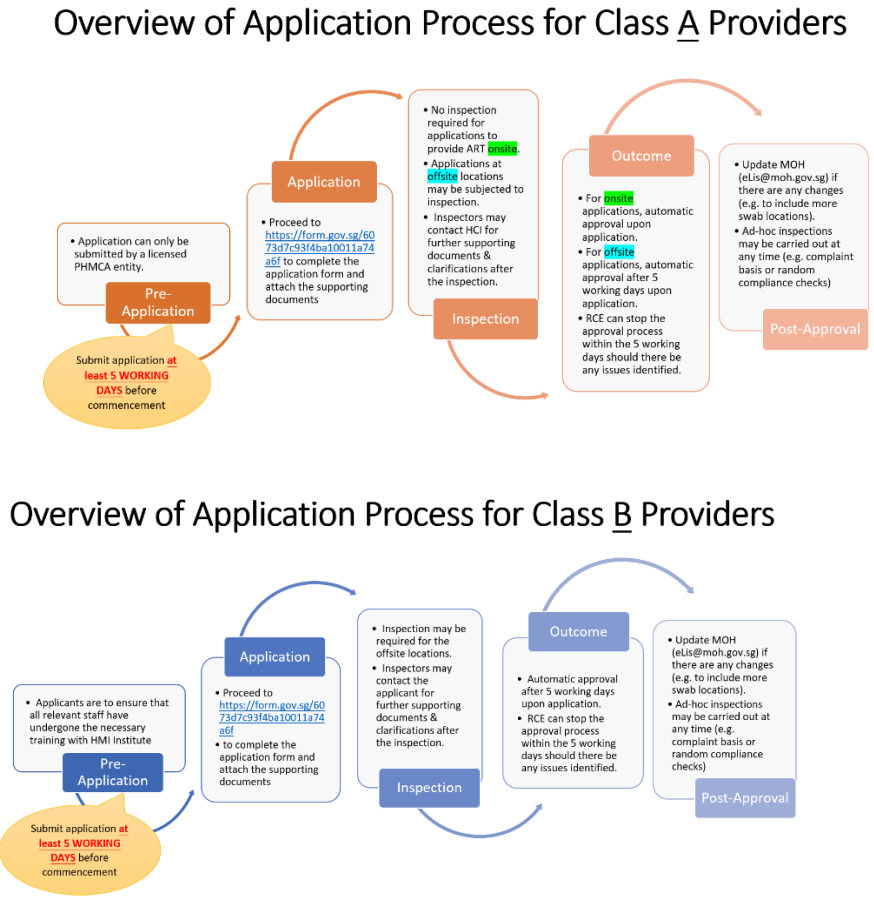


8. STEPS TO BECOME AN APPROVED TEST PROVIDER

8.1 To become an approved test provider, please go through the Infectious Diseases Act (IDA) Infectious Diseases (Antigen Rapid Test Providers) Regulations (see **Annex VI**).

8.2 Fill out the application to become an approved test provider (https://form.gov.sg/#!/6073d7c93f4ba10011a74a6f). Applications must be submitted at least 5 working days before the intended start of your ART Testing. Please see Diagram 5 below.

Diagram 5: Application process for approved test providers



8.3 For clarifications on the Regulations or the application process please email; <elis@moh.gov.sg>

– END –