



Colleagues at Kent Hospital,

We are happy to announce the ability to use COVID antigen testing for patients in the Emergency Department and inpatient units **effective April 1, 2024**. This test is restricted to use for certain patients including:

- Patients with confirmed COVID in last 90 days that are newly symptomatic and have a COVID positive PCR
- “Other Reason”- Requires approval from Infectious Disease Doctor

**Of note, this test is time sensitive. The specimen must be sent to lab within 30 minutes of collection. As a result, we are unable to offer this test in ambulatory sites at this time. This is a dry swab, which is different from the PCR swab currently used.**

Please see the attached memo and testing algorithm for more information and share with staff.

As always, don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Your ID, Lab, and IP Leaders

Erica Hardy, MD, MMS  
MSN, RN, CIC  
Director, Division of ID  
Infection Prevention

Amy Arruda, MLS(ASCP)<sup>cm</sup>  
CNE System Lab Manager

Kathleen O'Connell  
Director



(401) 227-3669



455 Toll Gate Road  
Warwick, RI 02886



[www.kentri.org](http://www.kentri.org)

