



Date:
Sept. 29, 2020

Memo

Title: COVID-19 Testing
To: Assessment Centres
From: Ontario Health

Thank you for working with the Ontario Health Regional Leadership to continue to conduct testing that is in alignment with the Ministry of Health's new [COVID-19 Testing Guidance Update](#). Anyone who needs to be tested per the guidance should get tested. There are no caps or quotas on testing consistent with the new guidance.

In accordance with the Ministry's updated guidance, and given the pressures on the lab network, we are working to ensure the specimens being collected can be processed in a timely fashion.

To that end, we are working with assessment centres on testing targets that are based on the historical utilization of tests in each region. A testing target refers to how many tests a region should need, based on what we've historically observed in each region. They also help us determine the number of tests coming to us and from where. Additionally, these targets go beyond anticipated need based on the Ministry's new testing guidance. Ontario Health will continue to monitor testing volumes daily and adjust as needed, in order to align with and support the Ministry's guidance.

Meanwhile, please continue to test according to the Ministry of Health's new testing criteria. Our goal is to work with you to ensure the continuum of specimen collection and your planning targets are aligned with the Ministry's new guidance.

We hope this update is helpful. If you have any questions, please contact covid19testing@ontariohealth.ca.