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Singapore authorises four COVID-19 antigen rapid test self-use kits

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HSA is working with the Ministry of Health (MOH) to make these tests widely available through designated local retail pharmacies



The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) in Singapore has granted interim authorisation for the following four antigen rapid test self-test kits:

Name of antigen rapid test self-test kit	Name of distributor	Authorisation date
Abbott PanBio™ COVID-19 Antigen Self-Test	Unison Collaborative Pte Ltd	31 May 2021
Quidel QuickVue At-Home OTC COVID-19 Test	Quantum Technologies Global Pte Ltd	2 June 2021
SD Biosensor SARS-CoV-2 Antigen Self-Test Nasal	Roche Diagnostics Asia Pacific Pte Ltd	9 June 2021
SD Biosensor Standard Q COVID-19 Ag Home Test	SPD Scientific Pte Ltd	9 June 2021

These are antigen rapid tests (ARTs) that can be used by consumers (untrained lay-users) for self-testing to detect active SARS-CoV-2 infection in nasal swab samples. ARTs detect the viral proteins in the nasal swab samples of infected individuals and usually work best in the early stages of infection. In general, ARTs can achieve a sensitivity of about 80% for cases with higher viral loads and a specificity range of 97-100%.

If a positive result is received from the self-test, users should follow MOH's guidelines on the next steps to take.

As these tests are meant for use by consumers, they can be bought by consumers without a doctor’s prescription. HSA is working with the Ministry of Health (MOH) to make these tests widely available through designated local retail pharmacies from 16 June 2021 and will be made available at more retail locations progressively.