



Medical Directive - Collection of Specimens to Test for COVID-19 without a Physician's Order

This medical directive supports the Saskatchewan Health Authority position on the collection of specimens required to test for COVID-19.


SHA staff members whose entry-level scope of practice includes the collection of nasopharyngeal or throat/nare swabs required for testing (including but not exclusive to RNs, LPNs, RPNs, RTs, PTs) are authorized to perform this specimen collection as well as sputum specimen collection based on testing guidelines available at

<https://www.saskhealthauthority.ca/news/service-alerts-emergency-events/covid-19/testing-screening-treatment-medical-directives>.

SHA staff members as described above are also authorized to perform specimen collection to test patients for COVID-19 on or prior to admission or transfer as set out in the expanded testing strategy and criteria.

Staff must provide patient education regarding follow up to the test.

Employees will refer any questions or concerns regarding the collection of specimens required for COVID-19 testing to their manager.

This medical directive has been approved by Dr. Susan Shaw, CMO  on June 13, 2020 and replaces the Medical Directive dated June 5, 2020. It is effective for 3 years from the date of signing.