

Pandemic Emergency Management – Challenge & Tested Solution

Challenge:

PCR Testing Availability and Supporting Frontline Workers in Outbreak

Solution:

Agency Run PCR Testing

- Ongwanada has RNs and now hosts a drive through PCR testing clinic every morning between 10 am to 12pm for both people using services and staff from agencies in the Kingston region that are high risk contacts or symptomatic.

Steps to Implement:

1. Secure location and regulated health professional to conduct test (RPN or paramedic etc.).
 - Ongwanada redeployed some of the agency's RNs
2. Host a drive through PCR testing clinic.
 - Determine who will be able to use this clinic. Ongwanada saw a greater need in the Kingston area and expanded the clinic to include all staff and people supported from agencies in the region that are high risk contacts or symptomatic
3. To complete a test, people supported require a doctor's order. Staff are required to fill out Public Health requisition (which also provides consent).
4. Secure PCR tests/swabs from Public Health and PPE for professionals conducting tests.
5. Use courier or agency staff to bring samples to Public Health lab.

Results

- How effective was this?
 - Very effective. So much so it was made available to other agencies. Result turn around time has been excellent, typically taking one day for results.
- Was this efficient? Was it quick to implement?
 - Very. It was not difficult to set-up and freed-up staff quicker than if requiring testing from public clinics.
- Would you recommend this to other agencies?
 - Yes, if they have the capacity or can acquire the capacity.

Additional Considerations:

- Solution requires access to regulated health care professional (RN, paramedic, etc.)
- Test kits are needed – supplied from PH
- For supported individuals, a doctor's order is required to conduct test. Staff can access results for supported individual afterward.
-

Date: January 12, 2022

Person Consulted – Alistair Lamb, CEO Ongwanada

Pandemic Emergency Management – Challenge & Tested Solution

- For staff, they must complete the requisition, which acts as consent form. Staff can access their own results

Lessons learned:

- Time consideration for when PCR testing is needed.
- individuals doing swabbing need access to PPE.
- Requisitions completed in advance saves time.

Further contact Person:

Alastair Lamb, CEO, Ongwanada: alamb@ongwanada.com