

ART Familiarisation Exercise

BGPS Webinar 15 September 5pm to 5:30pm



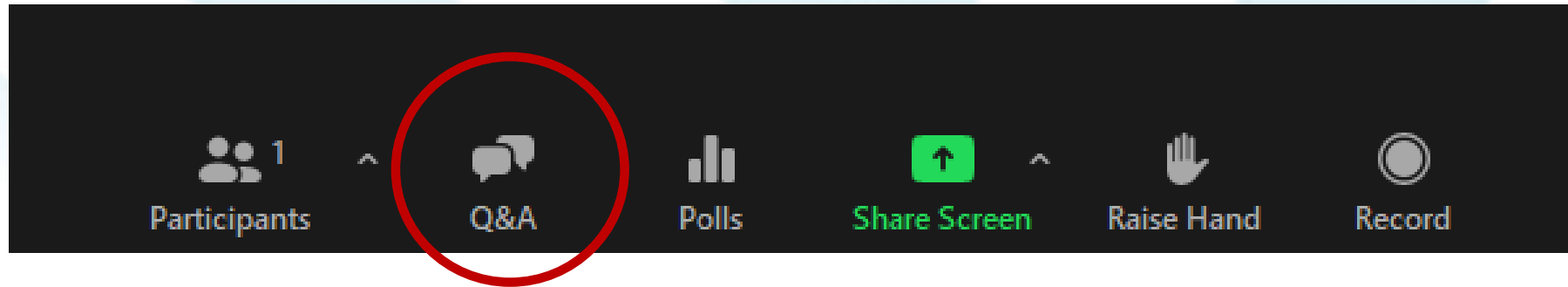
Objective

- Familiarise parents on how to swab your children using the ART kits provided at home.
- Support students/parents who may need further assistance with completing ART swab tests.

NOTE: ART will be used more regularly as Singapore moves into endemic mode and will be needed in some cases for students to return to school safely.

Question and Answers

- Please use the QnA function on the bottom of your screen to type in your questions



- To help us answer your question, please identify your child's level, class and name before your question.
- For example:
P3 RPS Tan Mei Li, *followed by your question ...*

Difference between PCR and ART Test

	Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) Test	Antigen Rapid Test (ART)
Conduct of Test	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conducted only by health-care professionals (eg. (SASH) or (PHPC) clinic or hospital)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can be conducted by self
Turnaround Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Takes up to 24 hours for results to be out	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very fast – can be less than 30 mins
Accuracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More accurate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Potentially high false-negative rate in individuals with low viral load• Higher false positive rate than PCR tests
Examples of use	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Symptomatic individuals (i.e unwell)• Stay-home-notice exit swab• Quarantine Order (QO) entry and exit swab	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Screening for pre-event testing• Individuals who fear they may have been exposed to COVID-19• Students on AA or LOA to be allowed to sit for year end written examination*

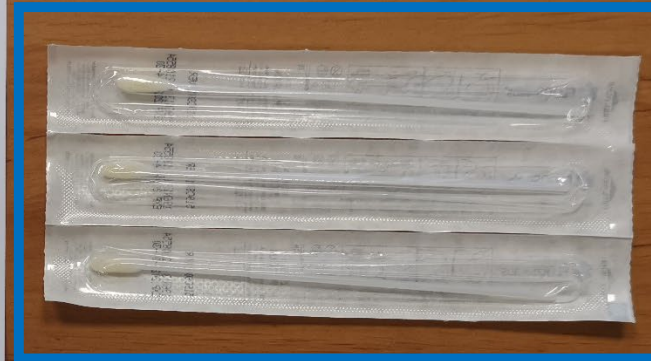
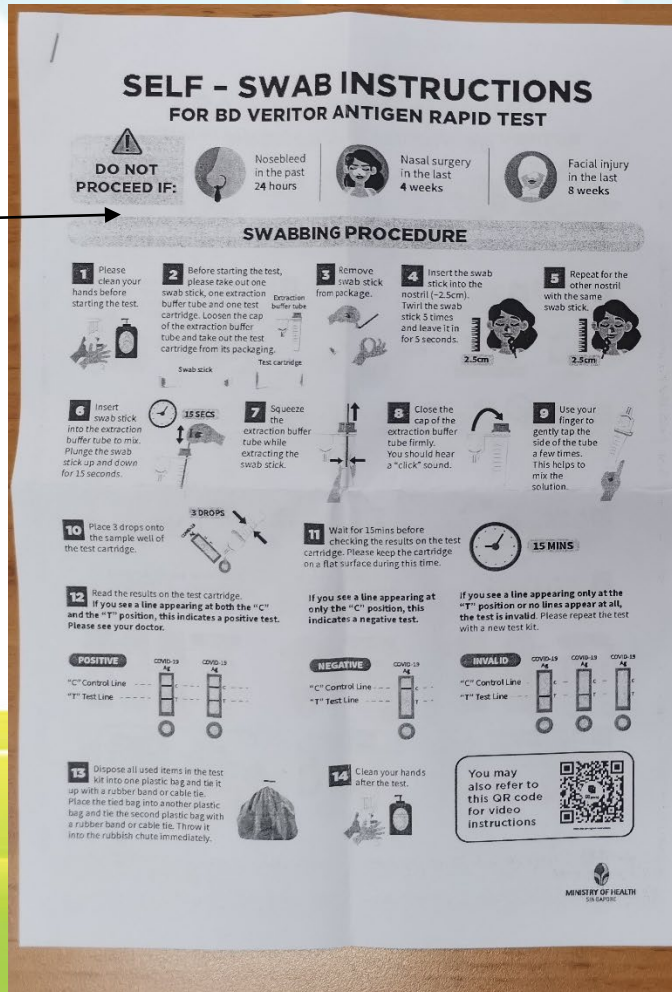
*Special cases requiring PCR applies.

The ART Test Kit

- The brand distributed by our school is
- What's in the Ziploc package



Instructions



3 x Single Use Swabs



3 x Extraction Reagent

3 x BD Veritor System Test Devices

Tips to note when Swabbing Children

Self-Administered ART Swabbing For Children (> 7 yrs old) –

- If child is more than 7 years of age – can consider self-administered ART swabbing +/- unsupervised

Tips to note when Swabbing Children

Care-provider-administered ART Swabbing For Children (<7 Yrs Old) -

- Position the child in a comfortable posture – no need to lie down
- Use age-appropriate distraction techniques if needed
- Position the child so that the child can see it when the swab is being done
- If the child sitting up, tilt the head up so that the swab can be gently introduced into the nostrils
- Hold swab with a pencil grip and insert gently along passage of nostril or until resistance is met.
- Rotate swab 5 times against the nasal wall & follow same method for other nostril
- Do NOT force the swab into the nostril - if child is very uncomfortable, immediately stop & withdraw

Suggested Message to Child :

- I am going to swab & check you for COVID-19.
- I will swab your both sides of your nose using this swab (show the swab and indicate the swab is NOT sharp or pokey).
- This will take about 5 seconds each side of your nose → Can count to 5 or count backwards from 10 with the child or sing a brief ditty with the child - eg Baby Shark, Baby Shark
- You may be uncomfortable or have tearing during this.
- If you feel pain while I am swabbing, please tell me immediately & I will stop

Do not proceed if



- Bleeding disorders – eg child with low platelets
- Recent facial trauma/fracture / surgery involving the face or nose
- Chronic mucositis with frequent epistaxis (nose bleeds) or recent nose bleed in the last 48 hours. These children must be swabbed with extra special care
- Children at risk of upper airway obstruction- eg croup – infection of upper airway that obstructs breathing with a barking cough, children with stridor/noisy breathing

NOTE :

- For children with Vasomotor (VMR)/allergic rhinitis – a condition where blood vessels in the nose swell leading to nasal congestion and nose become overactive leading to excessive discharge – can still swab, but must be done with extra gentle care.

How to Self-Swab (>7 Yrs old)

<https://youtu.be/bmrlaBM-ZIA>

How to Conduct Care-provider-administered Swab (<7 Yrs old)

<https://youtu.be/HJKRDUgx-r4>

When to Self-Swab?

- Suspected exposure but not sure

For example:

- May have brief contact with potential cases
- Household member unwell
- Selected pre-event requirements

If you have acute respiratory infection (ARI) or fever symptoms please see a doctor ASAP

If you received MOH High Risk Warning notification or Mandatory Testing notification, please proceed to get a PCR test asap

In the event of ART Test Positive (Ag+) Result

- If ART result is positive (Ag+) or invalid,
 - Repeat the test immediately.
- If it is positive or invalid twice,
 - Make an appointment at the nearest SASH/PHPC for confirmatory PCR test. <https://flu.gowhere.gov.sg/>
 - Call up the clinic beforehand to ensure the test can be conducted.
 - Child must self-isolate while waiting for the result of PCR test.

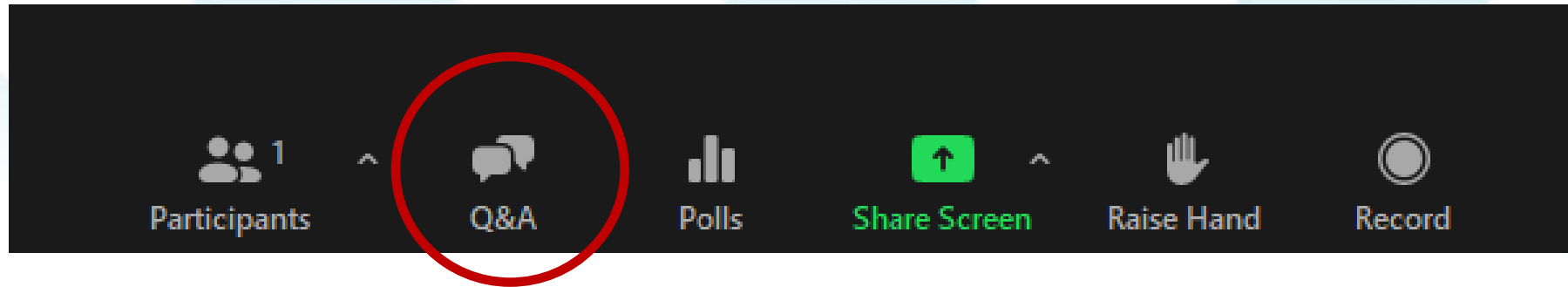
Treatment of Higher risk Groups for National Written Exams

As national year-end written examinations are key milestones that impact on educational progression, the revised 2021 exam arrangements will include the use of Antigen Rapid Tests to facilitate as many candidates as possible to sit for the examinations in-person while ensuring that the examinations are conducted safely to protect the safety and well-being for all present.

Category	2021 Exam Arrangement
Confirmed Case Quarantine Order (QO) Stay Home Notice (SHN)	Not allowed to sit for the exam
Leave Of Absence (LOA)	Supervised Self-Swab ART test in School. Allowed to take the exam if ART test is negative
Approved Absence (AA)	Self-swab ART test at home. Allowed to take the exam if ART test is negative NOTE: Students who received notification from MOH on Mandatory Testing or High Risk Warning, a PCR negative result is required, before being allowed to take the exam.
MC due to ARI	Allowed if recovered (i.e no more symptoms) and PCR Test result is negative
MC due to Fever (non-ARI)	Allowed if recovered (i.e no more symptoms) and self-swab ART test at home is negative

Question and Answers

- Please use the QnA function on the bottom of your screen to type in your questions



- To help us answer your question, please identify your child's level, class and name before your question.
- For example:
P3 RPS Tan Mei Li, *followed by your question ...*



<https://go.gov.sg/bgpsartwebinar>

Please give us your feedback. Thank you.