



Quality Assurance

Quality Assurance expectations apply to all test locations, and to every test provider.

Non-Regulated or Allied Health Care Providers (NRACP):
Specific additional information for NRACP is flagged in appropriate sections.

Overview

Use of the HIV POC test is assessed within the existing framework (quality management system) of the organization. As such, benefits, costs and risks are identified prior to implementation. Proof of accurate results can be provided to clients and/or stakeholders for every test provider.

General quality expectations for HIV POCT Quality Assurance include:

- The test location is able to include HIV POCT into its' existing practice while incorporating quality assurance tasks that are directly related to this test.
- Records are the backbone of the Quality System, and are kept as proof to clients or stakeholders of accurate test results by all test providers at this location.
- All test providers are trained and competent.
 - HIV POCT training expectations are the same for all test providers and are met by Health Authority approved venues.
 - **Non-regulated or allied healthcare professionals may need additional training to support incorporation of HIV POCT into existing practice.**
- Competence is defined and checked for all test providers on a routine basis.
- Manufacturer's recommendations for temperature assessment, Quality Control and Proficiency Testing are met.

Approval and requirements for performance/competence assessments of all test providers is a responsibility of the test location manager.

The overall responsibility for the HIV POC quality and technical aspects are determined and broadly overseen by the Health Authority partners. It is recommended that each test location should have one person assigned to oversee the day-to-day quality of testing at that location.

The BC HIV Point of Care Test Program (the BC Program) provides recommendations for the quality expectations for all test providers and test locations in other documents of this manual.

The BC Program monitors communications with test locations and follows up with the test location when a quality issue is suspected.

Health Authority partners are notified of quality problems as appropriate.