

<b>FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 11/6/2020</b>  TO: Grant County healthcare providers, clinic management, long term care facilities, and urgent cares.  Grant County Emergency Management	<b>FOR INFORMATION CONTACT</b>  Theresa Adkinson, Administrator <a href="mailto:tadkinson@granthealth.org">tadkinson@granthealth.org</a> 509-766-7960 ext. 24  24 Hour Duty Phone: 509-398-2083 CD FAX Line: 509-764-2813
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## **Antigen Testing for COVID-19**

**Results must be reported to GCHD immediately.**

### **ACTIONS**

Please ensure that **your facilities are reporting all COVID antigen results to GCHD immediately**. FAX the case reports to **509-764-2813**. Reporting form is attached.

### **BACKGROUND**

Currently, antigen test results are not reported in our statewide testing data system, therefore GCHD depends on timely reporting from testing sites. All antigen positive cases are fully investigated, and contact traced by GCHD. Unfortunately, our investigation team is seeing a downward trend in timely test results being reported to GCHD.

Washington State ([WAC 246-101](#)) requires laboratories to report all COVID-19 results (including positive, negative, inconclusive; and other results based on [State Health Officer Letters](#)) to the local public health jurisdiction (GCHD) of the patient's residence. This has now been updated by the [Washington State Board of Health's emergency rule, WAC 246-101-017 \(PDF\)](#). The emergency rule requires additional data elements that must be reported, including complete demographic data aligned with new federal requirements from the [U.S. Department of Health & Human Services](#).

The Department of Health does not include antigen tests in its statewide case count. But they do produce a weekly report of positive antigen test results on the DOH COVID-19 Data Dashboard under "Reports". Currently, positive antigen cases are a small percentage of all cases statewide.

GCHD reports positive antigen cases on our web site and they are included in the incident rates.

### **CONSULTATION**

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