



# Epi Update for Friday, September 17, 2021

**Office of the Public Health Medical Director  
Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)  
Bureau of HIV, STD, and Hepatitis**

**Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)**

Items for this week's Epi Update include:

- **Review: FDA approved COVID-19 tests, including at-home and lab based options**
- **COVID-19's impact on healthcare-associated infection (HAI) rates**
- **Infographic: Clinicians – Care for yourself one small way each day**
- **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

**Review: FDA approved COVID-19 tests, including at-home and lab based options**

There are now many FDA EAU approved [COVID 19 Tests](#): 235 molecular or PCR tests detecting RNA of the virus, and 11 antigen tests which detect surface proteins of the virus.

There are:

- 17 rapid point-of-care tests that are performed in a doctor's office, pharmacy, etc.
- 38 at-home tests that are sent to a laboratory for testing
- 5 at-home tests that can be performed by anyone

The following [Antigen tests](#) can be collected and performed at home:

- BinaxNOW COVID-19 Self-Test
- QuickVue At Home OTC COVID-19 Test
- BD Veritor At Home COVID-19 Test
- Ellume COVID-19 Home Test OTC
- CareStart COVID-19 Antigen Home Test

The following [Antigen tests](#) can be collected and performed at CLIA sites (high complexity, moderate complexity, or under a CLIA Certificate of Waiver):

- IntelliSwab COVID-19 Rapid Test Over the Counter
- BinaxNOW COVID-19 (Prescription Home Testing)
- BinaxNOW COVID-19 Ag Card 2 Home Test (Proctor Supervised)
- BinaxNOW COVID-19 Ag 2 Card Home Test, Telehealth (Proctor Supervised)
- IntelliSwab COVID-19 Rapid Test Rx (Prescription Home Testing)
- QuickVue At Home COVID-19 (Prescription Home Testing)

For more information about FDA approved tests, visit [www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/coronavirus-disease-2019-testing-basics](http://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/coronavirus-disease-2019-testing-basics)

## COVID-19's impact on healthcare-associated infection (HAI) rates

On September 3, CDC [published a report](#) summarizing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on rates of healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) in U.S. hospitals. Data reported to CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) found a significant increase in the following HAIs:

- central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSIs)
- catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTIs)
- ventilator-associated events (VAEs)
- methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) bacteremia

A similar trend was highlighted in a [CDC MMWR](#) published in December 2020.

While the causes of such increases are not yet fully understood, it may be in relation to staffing challenges, changes in PPE practices, and other infection prevention and control factors. These increases further emphasize the importance of prioritizing continuity of core infection prevention and control practices (training for and auditing of hand hygiene, PPE use, environmental cleaning, etc.) to the greatest extent possible during COVID-19 surges and returning to normal operating procedures as soon as capacity allows.

For more information about conventional infection prevention and control practices, visit [www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/index.html).

## Infographic: Clinicians – Care for yourself one small way each day



To view in full size, visit [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/communication/print-resources/Clinicians-Care-for-Yourself-card.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/communication/print-resources/Clinicians-Care-for-Yourself-card.pdf).

**Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

IDPH and SHL will be hosting the *Iowa Influenza Surveillance Annual Webinar for the 2021-22 Season* on September 27 at 12:00 noon. The webinar will provide an overview of influenza surveillance and response including a summary of recent seasons, testing guidance, immunization recommendations, outbreak response, and antiviral treatment and prophylaxis. The intended audience includes healthcare providers, school staff, local public health, laboratorians and other public health professionals. To register, visit [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_dUTaw4gUT0iYfvhHBHzVJA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_dUTaw4gUT0iYfvhHBHzVJA).

**Have a healthy and happy week!**

Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology  
800-362-2736

Bureau of HIV, STD, and Hepatitis  
515-281-6801