

From: [redacted]@mscbs.es
Sent: vendredi 4 septembre 2020 12:45
To: SANTE C3 HSC
Cc: [redacted]@mscbs.es; [redacted]@mscbs.es; alertascaes@mscbs.es
Subject: RE: Antigen test ES

Dear all,

We are considering, not yet using.

As may remember, antigenic rapid tests available few months ago were not as useful as expected and in fact, created more problems than benefits, mainly due to the lack of reliability of results, given important discrepancies between the sensitivity and specificity stated in the test documentation and the real sensitivity and specificity observed after our microbiologist tested them (very low for both indicators). This linked to a changing incidence in different regions and time periods (and thus vary PPV and NPV) made really complicated to get any added value from those tests.

Recently there are few companies proposing new antigenic rapid tests apparently with much higher sensitivity and specificity and some of them could even use saliva samples, what could ease very much the sampling process. Our National Centre for Microbiology is currently testing some of these tests to assure their quality (we cannot make a "false step" with the tests anymore) and probably we will have results in few days. However, we already know that even if these tests are good they will not be perfect and we will have to define carefully who, when, how should be tested and how should we interpret the results. As soon as we have information of interest we will share it with you as well as the proposal for use of these tests in Spain.

About the brands, I remember right know Abbott and Becton & Dickinson, but I will check with our Centre for Microbiology and will send you the brands they are effectively testing.

I hope I answer your questions for the meanwhile, while waiting for the results in few days.

Best regards and have a nice weekend

[redacted]

De: SANTE-C3-HSC@ec.europa.eu [<mailto:SANTE-C3-HSC@ec.europa.eu>]

Enviado el: viernes, 04 de septiembre de 2020 9:14

Para: [redacted]

CC: SANTE-C3-HSC@ec.europa.eu

Asunto: Antigen test ES

Dear [redacted],

We would like to consult you on the testing strategies in place in your country.

We listened with attention to your inputs during the HSC. You provided comments on antigen rapid tests.

We understand you are considering / are using rapid tests. Could you give more information on the specifications of these tests? What brands are you using? How reliable are the results?

Thank you.

Kind regards,

HSC Secretariat

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