

DATE:	2021 December 13
TO:	All Zones - All AHS and APL sites with Abbott ID NOW COVID-19 devices
FROM:	Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
RE:	POCT ID NOW COVID-19 kit shelf-life expiry change to 18 months

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Key Message

- Effective November 10, 2021, Health Canada has approved the Abbott ID NOW COVID-19 test kit expiry and for the shelf-life to be extended. It now has an 18-month shelf life from the product manufactured date.

Why this is important

- The shelf-life extension will lengthen the use of test kits from the current 12 months to 18 months.

Action Required

- Be aware of the shelf-life change and label current kit boxes accordingly.
 - Update future boxes received at your site if the expiry is less than 18 months
 - Communicate the change to your clinical practice area
 - There are no additional changes to the testing procedure

Effective

- November 10, 2021

Inquiries and feedback

- APL Laboratories please contact:
 - Dr. William Stokes, Medical Microbiologist, APL, William.stokes@aplabs.ca
 - Dr. Byron Berenger, Medical Microbiologist, APL, Byron.Berenger@aplabs.ca

AHS POCT Sites please contact:

Calgary Zone	Central Zone	Edmonton Zone	North Zone	South Zone
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Approved by

- Allison Venner, PhD, FCACB, Provincial POCT Medical Lead, APL
- Graham Tipples, Medical Scientific Director, APL – Public Health Laboratory