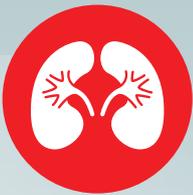


# Highly accurate point-of-care testing provides immediate and actionable information that cost effectively improves healthcare outcomes.



The menu for point-of-care testing (PoCT) continues to expand and includes:

- Blood glucose testing
- HbA1c
- Urine albumin/creatinine (ACR)
- Blood gases and electrolytes
- Rapid coagulation (INR)
- Haemoglobin testing
- Rapid cardiac markers including Troponin, BNP, NT pro-BNP
- Lipid testing including Cholesterol, Triglycerides, LDL, HDL
- C-reactive protein
- Infectious diseases including COVID-19, influenza, syphilis, HIV, hepatitis



Key benefits of PoCT:

- Increased ability for healthcare practitioner to make immediate and informed decisions about patient care, resulting in improved clinical management.<sup>1</sup>
- Provides greater convenience, safety, and satisfaction for patients with more opportunities for patient engagement, speedy diagnosis, and faster treatment decisions.<sup>1</sup>
- Allows a real-time discussion of test results removing the need to telephone through results or to schedule follow-on appointments.<sup>1</sup>
- Streamlined consultation process is convenient for patients and linked to improvements in patient satisfaction, medication adherence, communication with health care professionals and engagement of patients.<sup>2</sup>



Current barriers to uptake of PoCT:

- The absence of any Medicare rebate, or other funding source, for PoCT in general practice is a major limiting factor.<sup>3</sup>
- Relevant funding and regulatory arrangements are required to support the ongoing development, training, and implementation of appropriate PoCT and lead to quality outcomes for patients and the health system more broadly.<sup>3</sup>
- The substantial regulatory and financial burden for primary healthcare services seeking to include PoCT is a significant disincentive to implementation of PoCT.



1. The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners. Standards for point-of-care testing. 5th edition. 2020

2. Hirst J.A. et al. How can point-of-care HbA1c testing be integrated into UK primary care consultations? – A feasibility study. Diabetes Research and Clinical Practice, Volume 130, 2017

3. RACGP Position Statement: Point of Care Testing. August 2017