Date: May 24, 2022  
From: Leona Star, Director of Research, FNHSSM  
Tatenda Bwawa, Director of eHealth, FNHSSM  
Cc: FNHSSM Board of Directors  
Ardell Cochrane, Executive Director, FNHSSM  

Re: Voluntary COVID Take Home Test (Rapid Antigen Test) Tracking Call Center (1-833-639-2068)

To improve the availability of quality data for reporting the true impact of COVID-19 on First Nations peoples and assist individuals with the resources necessary to access treatment options, FNHSSM is operating a call center to collect COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT) results from those who wish to report their test results to be added to First Nation COVID-19 reports and entered into PHIMS (the medical record containing vaccine and test results for all communicable diseases including COVID).

Due to the nature of COVID-19, tracking positive cases has always been difficult, but now that the province of Manitoba has moved away from polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing, there has been a very significant loss of data necessary to combat COVID-19. This presents a very real risk to First Nations people, as communities and First Nation health organizations rely on accurate reporting to make the decision that protect our people.

This call center is to supplement the existing data collection being done by the First Nations Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) in hopes to reach members who might not be reached through community collection and extend data collection to those living off-reserve. If results have already been reported to Health Centers or Nursing Stations where public health programs are supported by FNIHB, individuals will not have to use this call center. For results that have not been captured by community led collection programs, please report results through the phone number below to help support a First Nations led COVID response.

We have attached a poster that can be distributed to share the phoneline. Please share widely through any channels you may have i.e. bulletin boards, social media platforms, newsletters, etc.

If you wish to know more or discuss how we may be able to help members report their RAT results, please do not hesitate to reach out to: Jenn Reaburn, PHIMS Project Manager, at 431-338-3374 or phims@fnhssm.com.

Individuals can contact the number below to report their COVID-19 rapid antigen test results:

1-833-639-2068

Encl: Take Home Testing Call Center Poster