



# DEMAND

## FOR RAT TESTS IN THE WORKPLACE



### WORKPLACE:

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to be a serious health threat to workers across the country. Whilst the rate of vaccination has increased there is a need to continue to control the risk of infection at the source.

**Under the *Work Health and Safety (WHS) Act, OHS Act in Victoria 2004 and the Work Health and Safety Act 2020 in Western Australia*, as an employer and/or person conducting a business or undertaking, you have a legal duty to:**

- **ENSURE** the health and safety of workers and others so far as is reasonably practicable. This duty requires employers to identify COVID-19 risks in the workplace and do everything they reasonably can to minimise them.
- **CONSULT** with workers and health and safety representatives (HSR),
- **CONTINUALLY IDENTIFY AND ASSESS** the hazards and risks posed by COVID-19, and
- **IMPLEMENT AND REVIEW** all practicable controls measure to minimise those risks.

**In the current climate, which includes highly transmissible strains of the virus, we believe that consideration of additional measures is warranted.**

Rapid Antigen Test (RATs) are not a replacement for other measures, they are a key part of the range of reasonable responses to the risks presented by COVID-19.

We call upon you to consult with us about strengthening this workplace’s protection against COVID-19. By sitting down and talking with us, we can come up with the best way to make sure that we can continue to work in a way that is safe and sustainable. These should include the introduction of Rapid Antigen Test (RATs) and improved and fit tested (P2 or N95) masks and reviewing our COVIDSAFE Plan to ensure it is still relevant and effective.

**Our workplace HSRs and delegates wish to meet with you as soon as possible to discuss this further.**

NAME	SIGNATURE

Give a copy of this to your organiser or [covidhotline@unitedworkers.org.au](mailto:covidhotline@unitedworkers.org.au)