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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COVID-19 rapid test kits available for MHEC members

MHEC prepared to help members in times of high demand

AMHERST, MA, Jan. 5, 2022 — MHEC, the not-for-profit buying consortium for its New England members, announced today the availability of self-test kits by four of its suppliers. Members of MHEC looking for COVID-19 test kits during this time of high demand can establish or replenish their supplies by using two different MHEC contracts: D25 Laboratory and Science Equipment and D32 Medical and Dental Equipment. At the time of this release, suppliers have confirmed the availability of over a million test kits in inventory.

The diagnostic tests available include rapid antigen tests as well as the molecular (RT-PCR) tests, both of which the FDA has determined can detect the Omicron Variant of COVID-19. The CDC encourages COVID-19 home tests as one of many strategies to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. The tests may be used regardless of vaccination or symptom status.

Before the end of 2021, the MHEC recognized the intense demand for rapid COVID test kits. "This scenario became our impetus to be proactive and try to find more inventory to meet the needs of our members," says MHEC executive director Michael Di Yeso.

As part of this initiative, MHEC has created a special web page: mhec.net/rapid-test-kits to provide consortium members comprehensive information on how to find and purchase these kits. Members will need to sign in to gain access to the current suppliers and test kits available on MHEC contracts.

Members with questions about these contracts, should contact their strategic sourcing managers:

[Scott Loomis](#) 413-992-2511 — D25 Laboratory and Science Equipment.

[Heather Ludden](#) 413-992-2502 — D32 Medical and Dental Equipment.

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About MHEC:

MHEC is a not-for-profit Group Purchasing Organization. We have been creating diverse contracts for our not-for-profit members for over 40 years. Our contracts make purchasing simple. MHEC's 2000+ members come from New England Higher Education, K-12, Municipalities (Cities and Towns), Libraries, and not-for-profit educational organizations in other sectors. It's easy to join, and membership is free.