

Rapid Diagnostic Testing Offers Innovative Community Healthcare Solution

Forward thinking Irish pharmacies are future proofing their businesses for the evolving landscape of community healthcare by adopting a point of care diagnostic testing platform.



The Coronavirus pandemic has meant that now, more than ever, many pharmacists are looking for new and better ways to support the communities they serve. The landscape of community healthcare is changing, and this offers pharmacists many exciting and innovative opportunities. By evolving the ways in which pharmacies offer accessible community care, pharmacists can embrace these changes, adopt new technologies, and lead the way for the future of community healthcare.

In September 2021, Dublin based pharmacist Niamh Boden started offering LumiraDx SARS-CoV-2 antigen testing in her Dunville pharmacy. As such, Niamh's pharmacy became one of the first in Ireland to provide this service.

Niamh chose LumiraDx's innovative testing platform, which includes its diagnostic Instrument and high sensitivity SARS-CoV-2 antigen (Ag) test as her combined diagnostic platform testing solution. Using cutting edge microfluidic technology, the LumiraDx Platform gives lab-comparable results in minutes at the point of care.

The LumiraDx SARS-CoV-2 Ag Test delivers rapid results in 12 minutes from a nasal or nasopharyngeal swab sample. The test detects nucleocapsid protein antigen with 97.6% (nasal swab) positive agreement to RT-PCR in individuals suspected of COVID-19 within the first 12 days of symptom onset or from asymptomatic individuals¹. In a systematic review by Brümmer et al, the LumiraDx SARS-CoV-2 Ag Test was shown to out-perform rapid antigen tests in both sensitivity and accuracy².

Niamh says, "The excellent performance of the microfluidic LumiraDx SARS-CoV-2 Ag Test offers great peace of mind - the results I can provide my customers with are quick to obtain and highly reliable. Plus, I'm already making a good return on my investment in the LumiraDx Platform, which paid for itself in a short space of time."

Matilda Allen, from Tracey's Community Pharmacy, is another forward-thinking



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pharmacist who has been using the LumiraDx Platform and SARS-CoV-2 antigen test for some time. According to Matilda, "The LumiraDx SARS-CoV-2 Ag Test and Platform is easy to use, quick and reliable. The next generation technology and high performance gives us total confidence in the results we provide to our customers in a community-based setting."

Matilda continues, "The Instrument's portable size and ease of use means that tests can be conducted on and off site, for customer convenience. Its versatility in being able to process samples collected using nasal or nasopharyngeal swabs is a positive for lots of my customers – most of my customers prefer me to take a nasal swab sample from them. Customers are also always pleasantly surprised that their results are ready in less than 12 minutes."

Richard McIlvenny (LumiraDx's Territory Sales Manager for Ireland) says "We have been happy to support the implementation of our LumiraDx Platform in several Irish pharmacies. The portability of our Instrument means you can offer convenient testing wherever the patient is. We understand that this is an exciting time for community healthcare in Ireland and our research and development team are working hard behind the scenes to expand our assay portfolio to support your changing needs. Our expanding test range,

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which we plan to include CRP, HbA1c and High-Sensitivity Troponin, will allow you to future-proof your pharmacy's offering by investing in the LumiraDx Platform."

Richard concludes, "The feedback we have received from the customers has been phenomenal. The LumiraDx Platform is a key tool in helping pharmacies in Ireland drive change in community care".

To find out how your pharmacy can benefit, you can call Richard and the LumiraDx team on +44 (0)117 284 1222, or email customerservices@lumiradx.com.

¹Drain et al., Infect Dis Ther. 2021 Jun; 10(2): 753-761. (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7904038/>)

²Brümmer et al., PLoS Med. 2021 Aug; 18(8): e1003735. (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8389849/>)

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