

**Priority question for written answer P-000221/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Eugen Jurzyca** (ECR)

Subject: Sampling for antigen tests by non-medical personnel

In paragraph 3 of its proposal for recommendation COM (2020) 849 final on antigen testing of December 2020, the Commission states that Member States should 'ensure that rapid antigen testing is conducted by trained healthcare personnel or other trained operators where appropriate and in line with national specifications, as well as in strict accordance with manufacturer's instructions and subject to quality control.' This paragraph states that Member States should invest in the training and, where necessary, certification of medical staff and other staff responsible for sampling and testing in order to ensure adequate capacity as well as high-quality samples.

Do any EU standards<sup>1</sup> or other EU legislation prevent sampling for antigen tests from being conducted – provided that such practices are permitted by the manufacturer's instructions and national law – by trained personnel who do not have a medical background but, for example, have completed a course on which they were trained to take samples?

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<sup>1</sup> E.g. Directive 98/79/EC and the standards referred to in Commission Implementing Decision 2020/439 for the sampling procedure for carrying out the antigen test, namely EN 13975:2003 or EN 14254:2004.