I have a positive result from Rapid Antigen Test (RAT). Do I need to repeat it or take a nucleic acid test to confirm?

No. Due to relatively high transmission risk in the community, RAT positive results are relatively reliable. Regardless the RAT was distributed by the Government or purchased on their own, members of the public with any positive result through RAT should be considered as positive cases.

People who obtained positive results through Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) for the first time can report via the online platform "Declaration System for individuals tested positive for COVID-19 using Rapid Antigen Test" (https://www.chp.gov.hk/ratp). If individuals encounter difficulties in using the online platform, they can call the automated system at 1836 119 to register their identification document and telephone number. The Centre for Health Protection will contact the relevant person later to finish the report procedure.

I am a confirmed case, recovered and finished isolation. Do I need to undergo nucleic acid tests regularly? If my nucleic acid test result is positive, does it mean I am still infectious?

In general, the body has immune response against COVID-19 infection. The viral load in the body will decrease gradually, infectiousness will reduce, and RAT results will become negative. On the other hand, vaccines will work synergistically with the immune system to fight the virus.

For some recovered patients, viral genome fragments in the body may present in nucleic acid tests. However, their infectiousness is basically much reduced already.

As such, if you have recovered, finished isolation and obtained negative results in relevant RAT(s), you do not need to take another nucleic acid test within three months after recovery, unless you are instructed by a healthcare professional or the Government to undergo testing.

It is possible that a person who recovered from COVID-19 be re-infected and become infective. Therefore, three months after recovery, you should undergo virus testing as necessary in the same ways as those who have never been infected with COVID-19.

If you feel unwell or have questions regarding your health, please consult a doctor and assessment on a case-by-case basis will be made.