

**Media Release
(ASX:HLS)**



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Healius announces collaboration with Minderoo Foundation for COVID-19 testing

Healius (ASX:HLS) today announced that it has partnered with the Minderoo Foundation to rapidly increase COVID-19 testing through Minderoo's national Safety Through Accelerated Testing (STAT) program.

Facilitated by Minderoo's provision of new testing equipment and reagents, Healius will increase its own capacity for COVID-19 testing as part of a 3-fold increase in total daily testing capability across the country. The STAT program is backed by the Australian Government to assist with the easing of lockdown restrictions and re-opening of the Australian economy by adding 10 million tests between now and the end of the year.

Healius MD & CEO, Dr Malcolm Parmenter said, "We are able to dramatically lift our COVID-19 testing with the support of the Minderoo Foundation, thereby expanding our essential frontline services and helping to protect the Australian public during this epidemic.

"Commencing next week, our capacity for COVID-19 testing through this program will ramp up. Collection from the public can occur through our dedicated COVID-19 collection centres and expanding footprint of drive-through facilities while rapid testing will be undertaken in our pathology laboratories under the expert guidance of our microbiologists.

"I want to thank Andrew and Nicola Forrest, the Minderoo Foundation, the Federal Minister for Health, Greg Hunt, and the Australian Government for enabling Healius to be part of this great initiative. As the government prepares to lift lockdown restrictions, widespread testing will be a critical step in monitoring the health of the community in these dynamic times," Dr Parmenter concluded.

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For over 30 years Healius has been one of Australia's leading healthcare companies with a commitment to supporting quality, affordable and accessible healthcare for all Australians. Today Healius has three main businesses – pathology, medical centres and imaging - and three emerging businesses – dental, IVF and day hospitals. Through its unique footprint of centres and 13,000 employees, Healius provides diagnostic services to consumers and their referring practitioners, as well as enabling a range of independent healthcare professionals to deliver patient care in partnership with Healius' nurses and support staff.

COVID-19 Testing Process

Collection

- Patient testing can be performed at one of Healius' designated COVID-19 pathology collection centres or at one of Healius' COVID-19 drive-through clinics.
- Patients need a GP request form and Medicare card.
- Dedicated collection staff, in full PPE, will perform a swab test in the nasopharynx (back of nose).
- The swab will be transported to the main testing laboratory for processing.

Testing

- COVID-19 tests are performed in batches by an automated process, adopting a highly specialised real time polymerase chain reaction (PCR) process.
- The ribonucleic acid (RNA) which contains the genetic information of the virus is extracted and assessed.

Results

- Within 24 hours, the result is available.
- Patients who have provided details will be sent an SMS with their result or instructions to contact their GP.
- All results, positive or negative, are sent to the requesting GP and to the Ministry of Health.
- All test samples are retained for approximately 30 days in case further testing is required.

Healius' pathology business operates under the following state brands:

