

# CARA OSBOURNE, ScD, MSN, CNM

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Dear DermaCare BioSciences client:

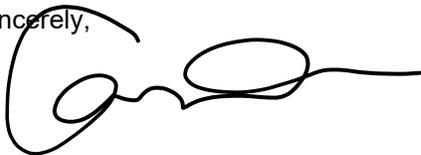
I hold a doctorate from Harvard School of Public Health and I am a nurse-midwife by clinical training. I was a part of early work at the Clinton Foundation HIV and AIDS initiative (now Clinton Health Access Initiative) around testing for HIV in the developing world and have many years of experience studying outcomes at the population level. As a clinician and a public health practitioner, I believe in the work that DermaCare BioSciences is doing to expand access to rapid testing for COVID-19 surveillance and I am happy to discuss potential use cases and surveillance program planning.

The importance of surveillance testing in containing the spread of infectious disease through the interruption of transmission chains is well documented. Numerous experts have advocated the widespread use of such testing since the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic. Notably, Michael Mina and his colleagues at the Harvard School of Public Health have said that widespread and frequent rapid antigen testing is the best possible tool that we have at our disposal (<https://time.com/5912705/covid-19-stop-spread-christmas/>). DermaCare's EasyRapidNOW™ test is an easy to use and cost-efficient option for surveillance testing. It could be used periodically in populations such as co-workers in a shared space, sports teams, or medical staff in a facility to detect the possible introduction of infection into the population by asymptomatic cases. This kind of testing increases the likelihood that a case is detected and isolated quickly enough to prevent transmission to others.

Luckily, the EasyRapidNOW™ is ready and available for surveillance testing immediately, and we can begin to use this powerful tool at the community level. EasyRapidNOW™ can be used for testing at the individual level and is being used in that capacity outside the United States under CE certification and World Health Organization approval. Surveillance testing can help people have more confidence and peace of mind in their interpersonal interactions and prevent a single case from fueling an outbreak.

The availability of vaccines is sure to save lives, but it will take time to vaccinate any population fully, and no one tool will bring the upheaval that the pandemic has caused to an end. We should use all the tools at our disposal as early and often as possible. We need surveillance testing, diagnostic testing, contact tracing, case isolation, quarantine, strategic closures, and large-scale vaccination. The surveillance testing that can be implemented with the readily available EasyRapidNOW™ could significantly decrease the burden on our health system, our organizations, and our families.

Sincerely,



Cara Osborne ScD, MSN, CNM