

EUROPEAN LAUNCH OF REVOLUTIONARY NEW SWAB FOR TESTING CHILDREN FOR RESPIRATORY DISEASES

The world's most child-friendly respiratory swab was launched in Europe today at Medica 2022 in Dusseldorf, Germany.

Rhinoswab Junior is the first nasal swab developed specifically for children. Its unique design addresses one of the pandemics' major challenges – testing reluctance – created by the fear, anxiety and discomfort associated with traditional combined throat and nose swabs.



Rhinoswab Junior is designed and manufactured by Rhinomed Limited, an Australia-based global nasal technology company. The Rhinoswab Junior is a novel nasal swab designed specifically for children. The Rhinoswab Junior comfortably sits inside the nose and captures a significantly larger yield than standard nasal swabs. Its unique and engaging design removes the fear children experience with existing swabs. It can easily be integrated into existing rapid antigen and PCR tests for a range of respiratory viruses including SARS-CoV-2, RSV, Influenza, etc.

Trial results – Preferred by 88% of children

The “*Less invasive SARS-CoV-2 testing for children: A comparison of saliva and a novel Anterior Nasal Swab*”¹ study, (<https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2022.09.21.22280208v1>) was conducted by leading pediatricians led by the Murdoch Children’s Research Institute in Melbourne, Australia.

The trial compared the current combined nose and throat swabs and saliva collection methods to Rhinoswab Junior. The trial demonstrated that Rhinoswab Junior is the best method for collecting samples from children when considering comfort, consistency, accuracy and efficacy.

A National Child Health Poll² identified that 74% of parents were reluctant to bring their children in for COVID-19 testing because of the potential trauma and pain of sampling, with up to 30% unlikely to test their children at all.

¹ <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2022.09.21.22280208v1>

² <https://www.rchpoll.org.au/polls/covid-19-testing-in-kids-what-concerns-parents/>

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The results of this new trial confirm that Rhinoswab Junior provides a child friendly, more comfortable alternative that addresses these concerns. 88% of children preferred Rhinoswab Junior compared to the standard swab, and it was the preferred method of sample collection for their next test.

Rhinoswab Junior's unique design also means children can collect their own samples, and parents and carers are more likely to ensure children are tested.

These results build on a [previous Murdoch Children's study of 249 hospital samples](#) that concluded that the Rhinoswab Junior is clinically equivalent to a standard combined nose and throat swab, yet preferred by eight out of 10 children and preferred by parents and nursing staff³.

Trial results More Sensitive and better case detection

The trial provided clear compelling evidence of clinical efficacy. Rhinoswab Junior demonstrated significantly more sensitivity than saliva and was able to detect more cases of SARS-CoV-2. The Rhinoswab Junior detected 45 cases when compared to the combined throat and nasal swab which detected 44 SARS-CoV-2 cases, while saliva samples detected just 39 cases. For the first time, clinicians can improve testing uptake and rely on an anterior nares swab without any statistically significant loss in sensitivity.

In the trial, samples were self-collected by 53 children aged 4-18 years, with results demonstrating that Rhinoswab Junior is:

- readily used by children to self-collect
- more comfortable and preferred to standard combined nose and throat swabs
- highly sensitive and accurate for SARS-CoV-2 detection, and
- more sensitive and has better COVID-19 case detection than saliva sampling.

The trial confirms Rhinoswab Junior is the preferred method of sample collection for respiratory diseases for children whether for PCR or Rapid Antigen testing.

Seeking partners

Rhinoswab Junior has the potential to improve testing rates for a range of respiratory viruses at home, in schools and in a variety of health settings. Its unique design delivers a standardised sampling methodology for the first time.

Rhinomed's presence at Medica 2022 is the company's first appearance in Europe as it seeks to bring this exciting new technology to market. The company has already signed agreements to include the Rhinoswab Junior in Rapid Antigen Test kits in Canada (with BTNX) and in Australia (with Surescreen Australia). The company is actively seeking partners in Europe, MENA and the Americas.

Rhinoswab Junior is listed for sale as a Class 1 device in Europe (CE Mark), in the USA (FDA), in the UK (MHRA), and in Australia (TGA).

Rhinomed CEO Michael Johnson commented,

"With SARS-CoV-2 variants and seasonal respiratory viruses continuing to evolve, and Europe heading into winter, we see a clear and compelling need for better testing and better case detection. Reducing the barriers to getting more people tested is crucial. Children remain a critical at risk population and we believe that the Rhinoswab Junior can radically improve testing uptake."

³https://cdn-api.markitdigital.com/apiman-gateway/ASX/asx-research/1.0/file/2924-02469551-3A584290?access_token=83ff96335c2d45a094df02a206a39ff4

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Rhinomed is proud to have developed a swab that not only works better but removes anxiety and distress – not just for kids, but for their parents and health care workers. [Even adults prefer Rhinoswab](#).⁴ We are excited to offer the demonstrated benefits of Rhinoswab Junior to the European market.”

Further information about the Rhinoswab can be found at <https://www.rhinomed.global/about-rhinomed/sample-collection/>.

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About Rhinomed Limited (ASX: RNO, OTCQB:RHNMF)

Rhinomed Limited is a nasal and airway technology company developing and selling innovative products that improve breathing, help the diagnosis of upper respiratory diseases and potentially enable more effective drug delivery. Rhinomed has a range of FDA, TGA and CE Mark registered nasal devices on the market that improve breathing (including for athletes), sleep and snoring, with increasing global sales in thousands of retail and online outlets. This includes Mute, the leading internal anti-snoring nasal dilator in the USA, which grew its sales 40n Amazon by 156% in 2022. Rhinoswab is a more comfortable, reliable nasal swab for sample self-collection for testing COVID-19 and other respiratory viruses. This is Rhinomed’s entry into the diagnostics market. In multiple user trials Rhinoswab was the preferred swab by over 75% of users and highly rated on comfort. Its companion product, the child friendly Rhinoswab Junior, has also proven to be effective and strongly preferred by children, parents and nurses in trials by the Murdoch Children’s Research Institute and Royal Children’s Hospital, Melbourne. The Rhinoswab range is registered with the FDA, MHRA, TGA and awarded a CE Mark with registrations pending in other markets.

⁴ <https://www.pathology.health.nsw.gov.au/research/research-forum/research-forum-2021/christopher-kot>