



Point of care diagnostic (PoC) testing is on the rise and for very good reasons from convenience and rapid response to improved access to faster path to treatment and increased compliance. So how will manufacturers meet the increasing demand?

The form factors for PoC diagnostic tests vary dramatically from very rudimentary test strips to the highly complex microfluidic cartridges and wearable continuous glucose meters. As a result, the automated solutions for manufacturing tend to be customized and unique. Typical processes that require automating are:

- Handling of; plastic components or platforms, foils, pads, papers, membranes, substrates, pre-filled reagents, mixing beads, filters, O-rings, springs, biosensors, valves, chip, batteries, desiccant, plastic bottles, eye dropper tips, caps, swabs, droppers, trays, product inserts
- Dispensing of; reagents, buffers, silicone, bonding agents
- Bottle filling and capping
- Placement or forming of micropumps and valves
- Fastening, bonding or sealing – snap, thread, heat, laser, ultrasonic
- Curing
- Surface treatment – corona, plasma
- Labeling
- Pouching, traying or cartoning
- Functional testing and inspection
- Kitting