Your COVID-19 testing questions answered

Have questions about COVID-19 tests? Here are some helpful answers about testing so you can make important decisions that keep yourself, your loved ones and our communities safe.

Can I get tested for COVID-19 at Walgreens?

Yes, we offer FREE* drive-thru testing for ages 3+ at 6,000+ locations nationwide. And, if you can't drive to a Walgreens drive-thru, we also offer at-home test options for purchase online and in most stores.

Visit Walgreens.com/COVIDTesting to learn more and schedule a test.

Walgreens

What's the difference between the types of COVID-19 tests offered by Walgreens?

We offer 3 types of FREE* drive-thru COVID-19 testing options:

1. Diagnostic Lab Test (PCR):

The RT-PCR Diagnostic Panel Test - (NAAT) is used to detect genetic material (mRNA) of COVID-19 and is sent to a laboratory to determine results within 48 hours (varies based on location).[†]

2. Rapid Diagnostic Test (ID NOW):

The Rapid Point-of-Care (POC) - NAAT (ID NOW) test is performed on-site, is used to detect genetic material (mRNA), and results are available within 24 hours.

3. Rapid Antigen Test (BinaxNOW):

Rapid Point-of-Care (POC) Test -Antigen (BinaxNOW) detects the presence of a specific viral antigen and is performed on site. Results are available within one hour. A followup diagnostic test may be required to confirm a positive result.

How and when will I receive my COVID-19 test results?

Test result turnaround times vary based on location and test type taken. You will be notified of the results online, by mail or by phone.

- Diagnostic Lab Test (PCR, most turnaround times within 48 hours, varies based on location[†])
- Rapid Diagnostic Test (ID NOW, results are available within 24 hours)
- Rapid Antigen Test (BinaxNOW, results are available within one hour)

I was around someone who tested positive for COVID-19. Should I get tested?

People who've been in close contact with someone infected with COVID-19 should get tested. Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of an infected person for a total of 15+ minutes over a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before they began noticing symptoms.

Additionally, you should stay away from others pending test results and follow the advice of your health care provider or a public health professional.

Fully-vaccinated people with no COVID-19 symptoms do not need to be tested following an exposure to someone with COVID-19.

What do I need to bring with me to a COVID-19 test?

Patients will be asked to bring:

- Copy of their confirmation email
- Valid state ID or driver's license*
- Insurance card or voucher, if applicable

For patients ages 3–18, the parent or legal guardian who provided consent to test the patient will be asked for the documents listed above.

What should I do if I've tested positive for COVID-19?

If you've tested positive for COVID-19 you should do the following:

- Contact your healthcare provider and follow their instructions
- Avoid public places
- Wear a mask when you must be around other people – those caring directly for you should wear masks when they are with you as well
- Practice self-quarantine



Walgreens

[†]Test results turnaround time is based on when the sample arrives at the laboratory. Test results for travel purposes cannot be guaranteed in time for travel. Patients will be notified of their result via email, mail or phone call.

*Patients will not be turned away if they are unable to provide proof of residency or immigration status. ©2021 Walgreen Co. All rights reserved.