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## COVID-19 Point-of-Care Testing

The chart below reviews pertinent information about point-of-care (POC) and home COVID-19 tests available in the U.S. Information within the chart is from the device product labeling unless otherwise specified. Proceed to the end of the chart for information about personal protective equipment, obtaining specimens, patient follow up, and billing for COVID-19 POC tests. See our chart, *COVID-19 Testing FAQs*, for more on who should be tested and interpreting and reporting test results. Our chart, *Point-of-Care Testing in Pharmacies*, includes a listing of other available POC tests (e.g., flu, strep, etc) and guidance on how to start a POC testing service in your pharmacy.

POC Test/ Timing for Results	Kit Storage/ Operational Temperature	Specimen Collection	Comments
<b>Molecular tests for rapid detection of COVID-19</b>			
<i>Accula SARS-CoV-2</i> <sup>6</sup>  Results: ~30 minutes	<b>Storage and Operation:</b> • 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• nasal swab</li> <li>• mid-turbinate swab</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid opening foil pouch more than 30 minutes before beginning a test.</li> <li>• Swab both nostrils with the same swab.</li> <li>• Add buffer to sample immediately after collection.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If test is not run immediately after collection (and adding buffer), specimens can be stored:                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• at room temperature for ≤2 hours.</li> <li>• refrigerated for ≤24 hours.</li> <li>• frozen at -4°F (-20°C) for ≤1 week.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Avoid use of transport media solution</b> if storing specimens before testing due to risk of invalidating test results.</li> </ul>
<i>Cue COVID-19</i> <sup>4</sup>  Results: ~25 minutes	<b>Storage:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C)</li> </ul> <b>Operation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C)</li> <li>• Has not been tested at high temperatures or in humidity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• nasal swab</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid opening foil pouch more than 30 minutes before beginning a test.</li> <li>• Swab both nostrils with the same swab.</li> <li>• Must insert swab into testing cartridge within 5 minutes of sample collection.</li> </ul>

POC Test/ Timing for Results	Kit Storage/ Operational Temperature	Specimen Collection	Comments
<b>Molecular tests for rapid detection of COVID-19, continued</b>			
<p><i>ID Now COVID-19</i><sup>5</sup></p> <p>Results: ~15 minutes</p>	<p><b>Storage:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 36°F to 86°F (2°C to 30°C)</li> </ul> <p><b>Operation</b> (if refrigerated, bring kit to room temp prior to use):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 59°F to 86°F [15°C to 30°C]</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• nasopharyngeal swab</li> <li>• nasal swab</li> <li>• throat swab</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid opening foil pouch until just before use.</li> <li>• Swab both nostrils with the same swab.</li> <li>• If test is not run immediately after collection, specimens can be stored at room temp (59°F to 86°F [15°C to 30°C]) for ≤1 hour.</li> <li>• <b>Avoid use of transport media solution</b> if storing specimens before testing due to risk of false-negative results.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Lucira COVID-19 All-in-One Test Kit</i><sup>23</sup></p> <p>Results: ~30 minutes</p>	<p><b>Storage:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C)</li> </ul> <p><b>Operation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 41°F to 113°F (5°C to 45°C) with 5% to 95% humidity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• nasal swab</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved for POC testing without age restrictions and home testing (<b>WITH a prescription</b>) using self-collection for people 14 years and older.</li> <li>• Avoid opening foil pouch until just before use.</li> <li>• Swab both nostrils with the same swab.</li> <li>• Run test immediately after collection.</li> <li>• In addition to the above information, when used at home instruct patients to <b>follow all testing instructions</b> and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• share ALL test results with the prescriber.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• dispose of all test kit materials in the plastic disposal bag that comes with the test.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Xpert Xpress SARS-CoV-2</i><sup>7</sup></p> <p>Results:<sup>8</sup> ~45 minutes</p>	<p><b>Storage:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 36°F to 82°F (2°C to 28°C)</li> </ul> <p><b>Operation</b> (if refrigerated, bring kit to room temp prior to use):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C) with 20% to 80% relative humidity<sup>9</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• nasopharyngeal swab</li> <li>• nasal swab</li> <li>• mid-turbinate swab</li> <li>• oropharyngeal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If test is not run immediately after collection specimens in viral transport medium or saline can be stored: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• at room temp (59°F to 86°F [15°C to 30°C]) for ≤8 hours.</li> <li>• refrigerated (36°F to 46°F [2°C to 8°C]) for ≤7 days.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Run test within 30 minutes of adding the sample to the cartridge.</li> <li>• Performance has only been established with nasopharyngeal swabs, but nasal, mid-turbinate, and oropharyngeal swabs are considered acceptable specimens.</li> </ul>

POC Test/ Timing for Results	Kit Storage/ Operational Temperature	Specimen Collection	Comments
<b>Molecular tests for rapid detection of COVID-19 and Influenza A/B</b>			
<i>BioFire Respiratory Panel 2.1-EZ (RP2.1-EZ)</i> <sup>17</sup>  Results: ~45 minutes	<b>Storage and Operation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 59°F to 77°F (15°C to 25°C)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• nasopharyngeal swab</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid opening foil pouch more than 30 minutes before beginning a test.</li> <li>• If test is not run immediately after collection, specimens in up to 3 mL of transport medium can be stored:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• at room temp 59°F to 77°F (15°C to 25°C) for ≤4 hours</li> <li>• refrigerated (36°F to 46°F [2°C to 8°C]) for ≤3 days. Bring refrigerated specimens to room temperature before testing.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<i>Cobas SARS-CoV-2 &amp; Influenza A/B</i> <sup>15</sup>  Results: ~20 minutes	<b>Storage:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 36°F to 46°F (2°C to 8°C)</li> </ul> <b>Operation</b> (bring kit to room temp prior to use): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• nasopharyngeal swab</li> <li>• nasal swab</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swab both nostrils with the same swab.</li> <li>• If test is not run immediately after collection specimens in viral transport medium or normal saline can be stored:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• at room temp (59°F to 86°F [15°C to 30°C]) ≤4 hours.</li> <li>• refrigerated (36°F to 46°F [2°C to 8°C]) ≤72 hours.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Once specimens have been transferred to the assay tube, they may be stored at room temp 59°F to 77°F (15°C to 25°C) for ≤4 hours.</li> </ul>
<i>Xpert Xpress SARS-CoV-2/Flu/RSV</i> <sup>18</sup>  Results: ~30 minutes <sup>19</sup>	<b>Storage:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 36°F to 82°F (2°C to 28°C)</li> </ul> <b>Operation</b> (if refrigerated, bring kit to room temp prior to use): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C) with 20% to 80% relative humidity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• nasopharyngeal swab</li> <li>• nasal swab</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When collecting nasal swab specimens, swab both nostrils with the same swab. (Only one nostril is used for nasopharyngeal specimen collection.)</li> <li>• If test is not run immediately after collection, specimens in 3 mL of viral transport medium can be stored:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• at room temp 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C) for ≤24 hours</li> <li>• refrigerated (36°F to 46°F [2°C to 8°C]) for ≤7 days. Bring refrigerated specimens to room temperature before testing.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

POC Test/ Timing for Results	Kit Storage/ Operational Temperature	Specimen Collection	Comments
<b>Antigen tests for rapid detection of COVID-19</b> (Negative results do NOT rule out COVID-19, especially in patients with symptoms. If necessary, confirm with a molecular test.)			
<i>BD Veritor System for Rapid Detection of SARS-CoV-2</i> <sup>11</sup> Results: ~15 minutes	<b>Storage:</b> • 36°F to 86°F (2°C to 30°C) <b>Operation</b> (if refrigerated, bring kit to room temp prior to use): • 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C)	• nasal swab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid opening foil pouch until just before use.</li> <li>• Swab both nostrils with the same swab.</li> <li>• After processing the swab in the extraction reagent, tests must be run within 30 minutes.</li> </ul>
<i>BinaxNow COVID-19 Ag Card</i> <sup>10</sup> Results: ~15 minutes	<b>Storage:</b> • 36°F to 86°F (2°C to 30°C) <b>Operation</b> (if refrigerated, bring kit to room temp prior to use): • 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C)	• nasal swab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid opening foil pouch until just before use.</li> <li>• Avoid reading results &gt;30 minutes after starting the test.</li> <li>• Swab both nostrils with the same swab.</li> <li>• Conduct test within one hour of specimen collection. False negative results may occur if specimens are tested past one hour of collection.</li> <li>• Avoid storing specimens in viral transport media.</li> </ul>
<i>BinaxNow COVID-19 Ag Card Home Test</i> <sup>27</sup> Results: ~15 minutes	<b>Storage:</b> • 36°F to 86°F (2°C to 30°C) <b>Operation</b> (if refrigerated, bring kit to room temp prior to use): • 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C)	• nasal swab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Home test WITH a prescription</b> for people 4 years or older within seven days of symptoms onset. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self-collection for people 15 years or older</li> <li>• Adult-assisted collection for children between 4 and 15 years.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Test should be done only through a supervised telehealth visit.</li> <li>• Counsel patients or caregivers to avoid touching the swab tip, other than inside the nostril when collecting the sample and to avoid opening the foil pouch until just before use.</li> <li>• Kit can be disposed of in household trash.</li> </ul>
<i>CareStart COVID-19 Antigen</i> <sup>22</sup> Results: ~10 minutes	<b>Storage:</b> • 34°F to 86°F (1°C to 30°C) <b>Operation</b> (if refrigerated, bring kit to room temp prior to use): • 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C)	• nasopharyngeal swab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid opening foil pouch until just before use.</li> <li>• Collect sample using one nostril.</li> <li>• Avoid reading results &lt;10 minutes or &gt;15 minutes after starting the test.</li> <li>• If test is not run immediately after collection, specimens can be stored in extraction buffer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• at room temperature (59°F to 86°F [15°C to 30°C]) for ≤4 hours.</li> <li>• frozen (-112°F [-80°C]) ≤5 days. Bring frozen samples to room temperature before testing.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

POC Test/ Timing for Results	Kit Storage/ Operational Temperature	Specimen Collection	Comments
<b>Antigen tests for rapid detection of COVID-19, continued</b> (Negative results do NOT rule out COVID-19, especially in patients with symptoms. If necessary, confirm with a molecular test.)			
<i>Clip COVID Rapid Antigen Test</i> <sup>29</sup>  Results: ~30 minutes	<b>Storage and Operation:</b> • 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C)	• nasal swab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid opening foil pouch until just before use.</li> <li>• Swab both nostrils with the same swab.</li> <li>• Conduct the test within 30 minutes of specimen collection.</li> <li>• Avoid storing specimens in viral transport media.</li> </ul>
<i>LumiraDx SARS-CoV-2 Ag Test</i> <sup>14</sup>  Results: ~15 minutes	<b>Storage:</b> • 36°F to 86°F (2°C to 30°C)  <b>Operation</b> (if refrigerated, bring kit to room temp prior to use): • 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C)	• nasal swab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid opening foil pouch until just before use.</li> <li>• Swab both nostrils with the same swab.</li> <li>• If test is not run immediately after collection, specimens can be stored: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• at room temperature (59°F to 86°F [15°C to 30°C]) for ≤5 hours.</li> <li>• frozen (-112°F [-80°C]) ≤5 days. Bring frozen samples to room temperature before testing.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<i>Ellume COVID-19 Home Test</i> <sup>28</sup>  Results: ~15 minutes  Cost: <sup>25</sup> ~\$30	<b>Storage:</b> • 36°F to 86°F (2°C to 30°C)  <b>Operation</b> (if refrigerated, bring kit to room temp prior to use): • 59°F to 77°F (15°C to 25°C)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• mid-turbinate swab</li> <li>• Self-collection for people 16 years or older.</li> <li>• Adult-assisted collection for children between 2 and 15 years.</li> <li>• Includes adapter to shorten swab for use in children between the ages of 2 and 12 years.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Home test withOUT a prescription</b> for people ≥2 years.<sup>25</sup></li> <li>• Can be used in patients <b>with or without symptoms</b>.</li> <li>• Smartphone and smartphone app required PRIOR to use. After downloading the app, patients will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• answer a few questions within the app and watch the video.</li> <li>• follow the step-by-step instructions to perform the test.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Results are automatically sent to smartphone app and public health authorities via secure, HIPAA-compliant cloud connection. Results can also be emailed.<sup>25,28</sup></li> <li>• Counsel patients or caregivers to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• keep smartphone with the downloaded app within 3 inches of the analyzer until test results are available.</li> <li>• avoid touching the swab tip (other than inside the nostril).</li> <li>• perform test within one hour of opening foil pouch.</li> <li>• contact their healthcare provider to discuss results (positive or negative) and next steps, and to see if further testing is needed.</li> <li>• disposal: kit (household trash); battery (per local regulations).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Test should not be used in people prone to nosebleeds or with a history of facial or head injury or surgery in the last six months.</li> </ul>

POC Test/ Timing for Results	Kit Storage/ Operational Temperature	Specimen Collection	Comments
<b>Antigen tests for rapid detection of COVID-19, continued</b> (Negative results do NOT rule out COVID-19, especially in patients with symptoms. If necessary, confirm with a molecular test.)			
<i>Sofia 2 SARS Antigen FIA</i> <sup>12</sup>  Results: ~15 minutes	<b>Storage and Operation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• nasopharyngeal swab</li> <li>• nasal swab</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid opening foil pouch until just before use.</li> <li>• Collect sample using one nostril, preferably the nostril with the most secretion.</li> <li>• If test is not run immediately after collection, <b>unprepared specimens</b> can be stored:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• at room temperature (59°F to 86°F [15° to 30°C]) or refrigerated (36°F to 46°F [2°C to 8°C]) ≤48 hours. Bring refrigerated samples to room temperature before testing.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Prepared specimens</b> can be stored out of direct sunlight, at room temperature, for ≤6 hours before testing.</li> <li>• Not recommended for use with viral transport media as this may decrease sensitivity (increase the chance for a false negative).</li> </ul>
<i>QuickVue SARS Antigen Test</i> <sup>26</sup>  Results: ~10 minutes	<b>Storage and Operation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• nasal swab</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid opening foil pouch more than one hour before use.</li> <li>• Avoid reading results &gt;15 minutes after starting the test.</li> <li>• Swab both nostrils with the same swab.</li> <li>• If test is not run immediately after collection, <b>unprepared specimens</b> can be stored:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• at room temperature (59°F to 86°F [15°C to 30°C]) or refrigerated (36°F to 46°F [2°C to 8°C]) ≤120 hours. Bring refrigerated samples to room temperature before testing.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Not recommended for use with viral transport media.</li> </ul>
<b>Antigen tests for rapid detection of COVID-19 and Influenza A/B</b>			
<i>Sofia 2 Flu + SARS Antigen FIA</i> <sup>24</sup>  Results: ~15 minutes	<b>Storage and Operation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• nasopharyngeal swab</li> <li>• nasal swab</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid opening foil pouch until just before use.</li> <li>• Avoid reading results &gt;30 minutes after starting the test.</li> <li>• Collect sample using one nostril, preferably the nostril with the most secretion.</li> <li>• If test is not run immediately after collection, <b>unprepared specimens</b> can be stored:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• at room temperature (59°F to 86°F [15°C to 30°C]) or refrigerated (36°F to 46°F [2°C to 8°C]) ≤48 hours. Bring refrigerated samples to room temperature before testing.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Not recommended for use with viral transport media.</li> </ul>

POC Test/ Timing for Results	Kit Storage/ Operational Temperature	Specimen Collection	Comments
<p align="center"><b>Serology (antibody) tests for rapid detection of an immune response to a recent exposure to SARS-CoV-2</b> (Should generally NOT be used to diagnose COVID-19. <b>Positive results do not mean patients are immune or protected from reinfection.</b>) Available POC serology tests provide <b>qualitative (yes/no)</b>; not quantitative (number of antibodies) results. When using fingerstick POC samples for antibody testing, tests should be <b>run immediately after sample collection.</b></p>			
<p><i>Assure/FaStep COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid Test<sup>16</sup></i></p> <p>Results: ~15 minutes</p>	<p><b>Storage:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 36°F to 86°F (2°C to 30°C)</li> </ul> <p><b>Operation</b> (if refrigerated, bring kit to room temp prior to use):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fingerstick</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid opening foil pouch until just before use.</li> <li>• Avoid reading results &lt;15 minutes or &gt;30 minutes after adding the buffer.</li> <li>• Confirm positive results with a different IgG or IgM assay, due to the risk of false positive results from cross-reactivity with other antibodies.</li> </ul>
<p><i>MidaSpot COVID-19 Antibody Combo Detection Kit</i></p> <p>Results: ~20 minutes</p>	<p><b>Storage:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 39°F to 77°F (4°C to 25°C)</li> </ul> <p><b>Operation</b> (if refrigerated, bring kit to room temp prior to use):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fingerstick</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid opening foil pouch more than 15 minutes prior to use.</li> <li>• Avoid reading results &lt;18 minutes or &gt;25 minutes after adding the buffer.</li> </ul>
<p><i>RapCov Rapid COVID-19 Test<sup>20</sup></i></p> <p>Results: ~15 minutes</p>	<p><b>Storage:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 36°F to 86°F (2°C to 30°C)</li> </ul> <p><b>Operation</b> (if refrigerated, bring kit to room temp prior to use):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fingerstick</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid use with patients whose onset of symptoms was &lt;15 days ago.</li> <li>• Avoid opening foil pouch until just before use.</li> <li>• Avoid reading results &lt;15 minutes or &gt;20 minutes after adding the buffer.</li> </ul>
<p><i>RightSign COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid Test Cassette</i></p> <p>Results: ~10 minutes</p>	<p><b>Storage:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 36°F to 86°F (2°C to 30°C)</li> </ul> <p><b>Operation</b> (if refrigerated, bring kit to room temp prior to use):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fingerstick</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid opening foil pouch more than one hour prior to use.</li> <li>• Avoid reading results &lt;10 minutes or &gt;20 minutes after adding the buffer.</li> <li>• Test may be less accurate if used in patients whose onset of symptoms was &lt;15 days ago.</li> </ul>



POC Test/ Timing for Results	Kit Storage/ Operational Temperature	Specimen Collection	Comments
<p align="center"><b>Serology (antibody) tests for rapid detection of an immune response to a recent exposure to SARS-CoV-2, continued</b>            (Should generally NOT be used to diagnose COVID-19. <b>Positive results do not mean patients are immune or protected from reinfection.</b>)            Available POC serology tests provide <b>qualitative (yes/no)</b>; not quantitative (number of antibodies) results.            When using fingerstick POC samples for antibody testing, tests should be <b>run immediately after sample collection.</b></p>			
<p><i>Sienna-Clarity COVIBLOCK COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid Test<sup>13</sup></i></p> <p>Results: ~10 minutes</p>	<p><b>Storage:</b>            • 36°F to 86°F (2°C to 30°C)</p> <p><b>Operation</b> (if refrigerated, bring kit to room temp prior to use):            • 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fingerstick</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid opening foil pouch more than one hour before use.</li> <li>• Avoid reading results &lt;10 minutes or &gt;20 minutes after adding the buffer.</li> </ul>

**--Continue to the Next Page for Tips for COVID-19 POC Testing--**



## Tips for COVID-19 POC Testing

- Molecular and antigen tests detect **active COVID-19 infection**. Serology (antibody) tests detect an immune response to a previous exposure to SARS-CoV-2.<sup>1</sup>
- In the U.S., pharmacies can use the following CPT code for POC COVID-19 testing: U0002.<sup>2</sup> Prescriber offices can refer to the American Medical Association's most current guidance on COVID-19 coding and guidance at <https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/cpt/covid-19-cpt-coding-and-guidance>. For locations looking to obtain a CLIA waiver, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS) released a quick-start guide to streamline the CLIA-waiver certification process for labs conducting testing for COVID-19.<sup>21</sup> The quick-start guide can be found at <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/laboratory-quick-start-guide-cms-clia-certification.pdf>.
- **Use proper PPE.** Ensure access, necessary training, fit testing (if using N95 respirators), and adherence to guidance (e.g., CDC [<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html>]) for PPE.
- Know **how to obtain specimens** for POC testing.
  - See product information for how to collect specimens.
  - A video demonstrating nasopharyngeal specimen collection is available at: <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMvcm2010260?query=RP>.
- **Use an appropriate space to collect specimens.** For example, use an isolated space outside of the pharmacy to collect specimens (e.g., the parking lot [drive thru windows may not ensure proper protection, especially if not using supervised self-collection methods]).<sup>3</sup>
- Follow policies and procedures for reporting positive and negative test results to patients, and local and state health departments.
- For all patients with symptoms, regardless of test results, discuss symptom management (e.g., fluids, antipyretic for fever).
- Patients with positive COVID-19 test should be given **instructions on isolation procedures** (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>) and if tested in a pharmacy, referred to their prescriber for further evaluation and management.
- Have a system to **follow-up with patients** to ensure referrals are complete, check that symptoms are improving, or assess med tolerability.

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*Users of this resource are cautioned to use their own professional judgment and consult any other necessary or appropriate sources prior to making clinical judgments based on the content of this document. Our editors have researched the information with input from experts, government agencies, and national organizations. Information and internet links in this article were current as of the date of publication.*

## References

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