

# Guidance for Rapid Antigen Testing

To ensure PCR testing is available to those who need it most, only people at high risk of severe outcomes or who work in high-risk settings need to book a PCR test.

The following guidance is provided for people who do not meet the criteria for PCR testing and are using a self-administered rapid antigen test.

Rapid antigen tests look for a protein from the virus that causes COVID-19. This is a simple test that does not require specialized equipment and can produce a result in as little as 15 minutes.

## Positive Test Results

If your self-administered test result is positive, it is very likely that you have COVID-19.

You should isolate for either 7 or 10 days, depending on your vaccination status:

- A.** If you are **fully vaccinated** (and not immunocompromised), you should **isolate for 7 days** from the day your symptoms started. Fully vaccinated means:
- You have received 2 vaccine doses, and your second dose was received within the last 6 months and at least 14 days before your symptoms began; OR
  - You have received 3 doses, and your third dose (booster) was received at least 14 days before your symptoms began.
- B.** If you are **unvaccinated or partially vaccinated** (or don't meet the criteria above), you should **isolate for 10 days**, followed by 4 days of self-monitoring. Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated means:
- You have not received any doses of the vaccine; OR
  - You have received just one dose; OR
  - You have received 2 vaccine doses, but your second dose was more than six months ago; OR
  - You have received 2 doses, but your second dose was less than 14 days before your symptoms began.

## Isolation of household contacts

If your rapid test result was positive, your household contacts should either self-monitor or self-isolate, depending on their vaccination status:

- If they are **fully vaccinated** and not immunocompromised (see definition in A above), they should **self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days**.
- If they are **unvaccinated or partially vaccinated** (see definition in B above), they should **self-isolate for 7 days**, followed by 7 days of self-monitoring.

If your rapid test is positive, you **DO NOT** need to get a PCR test to confirm your results.

Your rapid test results do not need to be reported to Yukon Communicable Disease Control.

For more information about self-isolating visit:

<https://yukon.ca/en/information-about-novel-coronavirus-self-isolating-home>

## Negative Test Results

- If your rapid test result is negative and you **do not have symptoms of COVID-19** you do not need to self-isolate.
- If your test is negative but you **have symptoms of COVID-19**, it is still possible you have COVID-19 and you must continue to self-isolate.
  - » If another rapid antigen test is available, repeat the test in 24-48 hours
  - » If the second test is also negative, then you most likely do not have COVID-19. You can end self-isolation when your symptoms have been improving for 24 hours (48 hours for nausea, diarrhea, or stomach pain).
  - » Your household members can also stop self-isolating if both of your rapid tests are negative, as long as they do not have COVID-19 symptoms. If they have symptoms, they should follow the directions above for people who are symptomatic.

## When to seek medical attention

If you or your family members or dependents have **any** of the following symptoms, call 911 and seek immediate emergency help:

- severe difficulty breathing (for example, struggling for each breath or speaking in single words)
- severe chest pain
- feelings of confusion
- loss of consciousness (fainting)

If you're concerned about symptoms that are not listed above, or if you need medical advice, call 811 or your primary health care provider for guidance.