



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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iHealth COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test FAQs

What is the iHealth COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test? The iHealth COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test is a home test or over-the-counter (OTC) test. Detailed information on self-testing can be found at: [Self-Testing | CDC](#)

How do I administer the test?

- Carefully read and follow the instructions in the [Quick Start Guide for Consumers](#), included in your box of test kits.
- The instructions for use for home use can be found at <https://www.fda.gov/media/153924/download>.
- Instructional videos are available at: https://youtu.be/qBt_H4Gc-rU, or you can download the iHealth COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test app on your smartphone to watch step-by-step videos.
- Adults should administer the test in children under age 15.

How long do we have to wait for results? After administering the test, results will be available in 15 minutes.

When should our household use these tests? The two most important times to be tested are *after* a possible exposure to someone with COVID-19 or *before* you are spending time with a vulnerable person, such as an older adult. Keep in mind, the test results only show if you have COVID on the day you are tested. So use the tests right before gathering with people outside of your household.

I'm taking the test because I was exposed to someone with COVID. What should I know? If you are having COVID-like symptoms, you should take the test right away. If you don't have symptoms, you should wait at least 3 days after the exposure before taking the test.

We are a family of five, but we only have two test kits. Who should use them before we gather with others outside our household? Two groups should be prioritized for rapid testing: young children who cannot get vaccinated and people who spend the most time in spaces where they may be exposed to COVID, such as a crowded workplace or an airport. If you can, however, try to obtain additional kits and test your entire household before gathering with others. The tests can be used regardless of your vaccination status.

What does a positive test mean? A positive self-test result means that the test detected the virus, and you are very likely to have an infection and should stay home or isolate for 10 days, wear a mask if you could have contact with others, and avoid indoor gatherings to reduce the risk of spreading disease to someone else.

Do we need to report a positive test result? Yes, within 24 hours you should upload your positive home test result to NCDOH. Take a picture of the test kit showing a positive result and upload it using the [Positive COVID-19 Home Test Reporting Form](#). **NOTE:** use of the iHealth App does not meet the reporting requirements in Niagara County.

What happens if I don't report my positive test result within 24 hours? If NCDOH does not have a record of your positive test result, we cannot legally provide an official Release from Isolation Order that is required by many employers, schools, etc. when your isolation period is over.

What does a negative test mean? A negative self-test result means that the test did not detect the virus and you may not have an infection, but it does not rule out infection. Repeating the test within a few days, with at least 24 hours between tests, will increase the confidence that you are not infected.

Do we need to report a negative test result? No, you do not need to report a negative home test result to the NCDOH.