

IEP Healthy Urgent Care Frequently Asked Questions **BACK TO WORK** **COVID-19 TESTING**

***NEW* RAPID 15 MINUTE COVID-19 ANTIGEN TEST**

- **What is the new RAPID COVID-19 Antigen Test?**

This test screens for new infections but in a different way. It looks for protein traces of the virus — known as antigens — for early identification of an active COVID-19 infection in patients. The same approach is used in rapid tests for flu, strep throat and other infections that are run at the hospital or doctor's office.

- **Does this test diagnose active COVID-19 infections?**

Yes, this test detects the presence of the virus and an active infection or carrier status.

- **How long will it take for results to be available?**

Results are known in 15 minutes.

- **How accurate is the test?**

The Rapid test is 100% specific to the Sars Cov virus that causes COVID. When compared to PCR testing this test has an overall agreement of 97.9%

- **Is this a blood test or a swab?**

This test is performed with a nasal swab, like a nasal swab used for detection of the flu. This is much more comfortable than the deep nasal swab used for PCR tests.

- **What is the brand of the test?**

Quidel Sofia Sars Cov Antigen Fluorescent Immunoassay (FIA)

COVID-19 PCR TEST

- **What is the COVID-19 PCR Test?**

The PCR test is the deep nasal swab test that looks for genetic material of the coronavirus. The test uses a technology called PCR (polymerase chain reaction), samples are sent to a centralized lab for analysis, and results are generally available in 3-5 days.

COVID-19 ANTIBODY TEST

- **What is the difference between COVID Antigen and COVID PCR testing?**

Antigen testing detects specific proteins or molecules on a virus. PCR testing detects genetic material. Both tests detect the presence of the virus. Antigen testing results are available at time of visit, within 15 minutes. PCR tests are sent to an outside lab for results and can take 3-5 days for results.

WHICH TEST SHOULD I HAVE?

- **What is the difference between COVID-19 Rapid Antigen, Antibody and PCR Tests?**

- **Rapid Antigen testing** detects an active infection with results in as little as 15 minutes. It works the same as rapid tests for flu, strep throat and other infections that are run at the hospital or doctor's office. If you are symptomatic or looking to see if you are an asymptomatic carrier this is the test to have performed.
- **PCR testing** requires a deep nasal swab that is sent to an outside lab for testing and can take 3-5 days for results. A PCR test may be used to confirm antigen testing based on the providers discretion.
- **Antibody testing** requires a blood draw test and look for previous exposure to COVID-19. It is not appropriate for use if you currently having symptoms or want to diagnose a current infection.

Our providers can discuss all testing options with you.

I WANT TO BE TESTED. WHAT SHOULD I DO NEXT?

- **I would like to have this test done, what do I do next?**

We are accepting walk-in patients, or you may make an appointment online and complete the Registration and our providers will discuss the best testing option with you.

- **How much does the Rapid COVID-19 Antigen Test cost?**

An office visit and evaluation by a provider is required. Insurances will cover the office visit, but you may have an urgent care copay or deductible. If you do not have insurance, an office visit is \$95. The Rapid COVID testing is new and there is not an insurance code for the test yet. The test is \$50 that is paid at time of visit.

- **How much does the COVID-19 PCR or COVID-19 Antibody Test cost?**

The office visit and lab fee will be charged separately. Most insurances have agreed to cover costs related to COVID-19 testing. We recommend that you check with your insurance provider to verify any co-pays or deductibles you will be responsible for. If you do not have insurance, an in-office visit is \$95, and you will receive a bill for from the outside lab facility that performs the sample analysis - this can range from \$45-\$145.

- **Can I order testing in bulk for my workforce?**

IEP Healthy Urgent Care can arrange bulk COVID-19 antibody testing for a workforce. Please contact us for details. You can contact us via the following email address jkarim@iep-pc.com or by phone at 248-821-5317.

FDA APPROVAL

Is this test FDA approved?

All COVID-19 testing is performed through an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) issued by the FDA. FDA approval is a long process that can take years to get full approval.