

Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) Test Result Interpretation in Patient Portal

Examples of Positive Test Results





What does it mean if I have a positive or detected test result?

If you have a positive or detected test result, it is very likely that you have COVID-19. Therefore, you should isolate yourself to avoid spreading the virus to others. Your healthcare provider will work with you to determine how best to care for you based on the test results along with other factors of your medical history, and your symptoms, possible exposures, and geographic location of places you have recently traveled. There is a very small, but unlikely chance that this test can give a positive result that is wrong (a false positive result).

Example of **Presumptive Positive** Test Result

What does it mean if I have a presumptive positive test result?

If you have a presumptive positive test result, it is very likely that you have COVID-19. Therefore, you should isolate yourself to avoid spreading the virus to others. There is a very small chance that this test can give a positive result that is wrong (a false positive result). Your healthcare provider will work with you to determine how best to care for you based on the test results along with other factors of your medical history, and your symptoms, possible exposures, and geographic location of places you have recently traveled.



Examples of **Negative** Test Results

SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR REF Learn more about this
Not Detected

Date: Apr 18, 2020 02:20 p.m. EDT

View all for this result



SARS-CoV-2 REF	Learn more about this 🔁
NOT DETECTED PCF	2
Date: Apr 18, 2020 01:50	p.m. EDT
▶ Show more info	

What does it mean if I have a negative or not detected test result?

A negative or not detected test result means that the virus that causes COVID-19 was not found in your sample. For COVID-19, a negative or not detected test result for a sample collected while a person has symptoms usually means that COVID-19 did not cause your recent illness. However, it is possible for this test to give a negative or not detected result that is incorrect (false negative) in some people with COVID-19. This means that you could possibly still have COVID-19 even though the test is negative. If this is the case, your healthcare provider will consider the test result together with all other aspects of your medical history (such as symptoms, possible exposures, and geographical location of places you have recently traveled) in deciding how to care for you. It is important that you work with your healthcare provider to help you understand the next steps you should take.

What does it mean if I have an invalid test result?

If you have received an invalid COVID-19 test result there was an issue in either the specimen collection or the test processing. You will need to call the AU Nurse Managed Health Center at 706-721-1225 to schedule to have the test recollected. Please do not put anything in your nose prior having the swab recollected. You will need to continue to quarantine yourself until your test has been recollected and resulted.