



## Patient Instructions Following a Rapid Test

Today you had a blood test performed by your doctor. This “rapid test” will *not* show your doctor whether you currently have the COVID-19 virus. Instead it looks to see if your body is fighting an infection to the COVID-19 virus.

### Patients who had symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath) at time of testing

- Your test was **NEGATIVE** – **this does not mean that you are not infected with COVID-19**. Your healthcare provider may recommend additional testing. You **must** continue to isolate yourself at home, away from others, and should **consider yourself to be infected** until follow-up testing is completed and your health care provider indicates you can stop self-isolation.
- Your test was **POSITIVE** – **you are infected with COVID-19**. Follow your health care provider’s directions. You **must** isolate from others for at least **3 days** after your fever goes away and your breathing returns to normal **and** at least **7 days** since you first noticed you were sick. DPH recommends exclusion from work until **7 days** after your fever goes away and your breathing improves, however please discuss this with your employer.

### For patients without symptoms at time of testing

- Your test was **NEGATIVE** – **this does not mean that you are not infected with COVID-19**. You may not notice symptoms for up to 2 weeks following exposure to the virus that causes COVID-19. You **must** continue to practice social distancing and any appropriate instructions on exposure. Your employer may consider allowing you to return to work; however, you must wear a mask or face covering for a total of 14 days post exposure. Please notify your supervisor if you begin to develop symptoms and self-isolate at home.
- Your test was **POSITIVE for IgM** – **an antibody that indicates you have an active infection. You must consider yourself actively infected with COVID-19**. You **must** self-isolate for 7 days following the test. Please notify your supervisor if you develop symptoms, as isolation requirements may change in this setting. Home isolation may be discontinued under existing DPH guidance, using the rapid test result as the date of first positive test as long as you do not develop COVID-19 symptoms.
- Your test was **POSITIVE for IgG** – **an antibody that indicates you may have previously had the COVID-19 virus**. You should continue to follow all infection prevention instructions to avoid giving COVID-19 to others, including social distancing and wearing appropriate protective equipment.