

Know the types of COVID-19 tests

Diagnostic Testing

These tests are typically collected by swabbing nose or throat and through saliva samples to show if you have an active COVID-19 infection.

These are either **molecular** or **antigen** tests.

Antibody Testing

These tests look for antibodies in your immune system, indicating previous infections.

These tests are not used to diagnosis an active infection of COVID-19.

These are usually taken with blood samples.

	Molecular Test	Antigen Test	Antibody Test
WHAT IT SHOWS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diagnoses active infections of COVID-19 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diagnoses active infections of COVID-19 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shows if you have been infected previously with COVID-19
STANDARDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highly sensitive Very specific Most accurate for diagnosing active infections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very specific Less sensitive Less accurate; giving a higher false negative rate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not knowing how long antibodies stay in your system, these are variable depending on the timing of when test is drawn
TIME TO RESULT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1-3 days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Usually rapid within 15 to 30 minutes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1-3 days
HOW TO TEST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nasal swab Nasopharyngeal swab Saliva 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nasal swab Nasopharyngeal swab 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finger stick or draw from vein
ALSO REFERRED TO AS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PCR-RT test Nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) LAMP test, diagnostic test Viral test Molecular test 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diagnostic test Viral test Rapid test 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Serological test Serology test Serology blood test