



COVID-19 PCR Test Information

What is a COVID-19 PCR test?

The PCR test is a molecular test that detects genetic material of the virus (RNA) using a lab technique called polymerase chain reaction (PCR). This test is used to detect an active infection of the virus.

The lab specimen is a nasal swab that is performed in the center and then sent to a laboratory for testing. The turnaround time is about 2 – 5 days.

Here is additional information from the FDA about [Coronavirus Testing Basics](#).

Test Laboratory:	PathGroup
Test Manufacturer:	Hologic
Test Name:	Aptima SARS-CoV-2 Assay
Positive Percent Agreement (sensitivity):	100.0%
Negative Percent Agreement (specificity):	98.2%
Hologic Fact Sheet:	Hologic Fact Sheet for Patients

Sensitivity (PPA) measures how often a test correctly generates a positive result for people who have the condition that's being tested for (also known as the "true positive" rate). A test that's highly sensitive will flag almost everyone who has the disease and not generate many false-negative results.

Specificity (NPA) measures a test's ability to correctly generate a negative result for people who don't have the condition that's being tested for (also known as the "true negative" rate). A high-specificity test will correctly rule out almost everyone who doesn't have the disease and won't generate many false-positive results.

FDA Status:

- On May 14, 2020, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued an [Emergency Use Authorization](#) (EUA) for the Hologic Aptima SARS-CoV-2 test.

Test Reimbursement

- Please check your healthcare insurer's website for additional information about reimbursement for this test.