

Nucleic Acid Amplification Tests (NAATs) 	Antigen Test 	Antibody Test
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Offered by Color?	YES. Color is able to support NAAT testing programs using the Color SARS-CoV-2 RT-LAMP Diagnostic Assay ³ (<i>individual and pooled testing</i>) and/or other NAATs from non-Color labs (<i>including RT-PCR and rapid molecular tests</i>).	YES. Color is able to support antigen testing programs.	NO.
Also known as...	Diagnostic test, viral test, molecular test, rapid test, RT-LAMP or LAMP test, RT-PCR test	Diagnostic test, viral test, rapid test	Serological test or serology test
What does this test detect?	NAATs detect viral genetic material (<i>called RNA</i>) from SARS-CoV-2.	Antigen tests detect small parts of proteins (<i>called antigens</i>) from SARS-CoV-2.	Antibody tests detect antibodies made by the immune system to fight infections.
How long does it take to get results?	Most take 1-3 days. Some are rapid tests that take 15 minutes.	Most are rapid tests that take less than 1 hour.	Most take 1-3 days. Some are rapid tests that give results the same day.
What sample type does this test require?	Nasal swabs (<i>shallow or deep</i>), throat swabs, or saliva	Most use nasal swabs (<i>shallow or deep</i>).	Blood from fingerstick or vein
What <i>can</i> this test do?	Diagnose active SARS-CoV-2 infection	Diagnose active SARS-CoV-2 infection	Show if you had a prior SARS-CoV-2 infection and mounted an immune response
What <i>can't</i> this test do?	NAATs cannot show if you had a prior SARS-CoV-2 infection.	Antigen tests may not detect an early SARS-CoV-2 infection. A molecular test may be needed to confirm a negative antigen test result for someone with symptoms. These tests also cannot show if you had a prior SARS-CoV-2 infection.	Antibody tests cannot diagnose an active SARS-CoV-2 infection.
Will I need another test to confirm my results?	Not usually. These types of tests are highly accurate and typically do not need to be repeated.	Sometimes. Positive results are usually accurate, but false positives may occur. False negatives are more common with these tests, and as a result, negative results may need to be confirmed with a molecular test.	Sometimes a second antibody test is needed for accurate results.

REFERENCES

- [1. FDA. Coronavirus Disease 2019 Testing Basics. Published April 7, 2021. Accessed August 18, 2021.](#)
- [2. CDC. Overview of testing for SARS-CoV-2 \(COVID-19\). Published August 2, 2021. Accessed August 18, 2021.](#)
- [3. Color Health, Inc. COVID-19 Test Overview. Published 2020. Accessed August 18, 2021.](#)