

Fact sheet for travellers

RSCADMDOC7/21 FEB 2022

Direct Saliva - COVID-19 test

You are being given this Fact Sheet because your sample(s) is going to be tested for the virus that causes COVID-19 using a validated direct saliva test. This is an accurate and non-invasive screening test. You will be asked to provide a small volume of saliva which will go into a labelled tube.

After reading this Fact Sheet, if you have questions or would like to discuss the information provided, please talk to your healthcare provider.

What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus which is a virus in humans causing a contagious respiratory illness. COVID-19 can present with a mild to severe illness, although some people infected with COVID-19 may have no symptoms at all.

The SARS-CoV-2 virus can be spread to others not just while one is sick, but even before a person shows signs or symptoms of being sick (e.g. fever, coughing, difficulty breathing, etc.).

What are the benefits of the test?

- The benefits of this test are that it is non-invasive and so, there is no discomfort by taking this test.
- The results, along with other information, can help your healthcare provider make informed recommendations about your care.
- The results of this test may help limit the spread of COVID-19 to your family and those you come in contact with.

What does it mean if I have a negative test result?

If you have a negative test result, it is very likely that you do not have COVID-19 and you can return to your COVID-free workplace.

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

If you have a positive test result, it is very likely that you have COVID-19. This is a notifiable disease and the Ministry of Health will be notified. Your healthcare provider will then work with you to determine how best to care for you as well as assist you in following the existing COVID-19 guidelines.

You will not be allowed to travel.

How will my Privacy be respected?

Any information we collect from you will be held in accordance with the Privacy Act 2020 and the Health Information Privacy Code 2020. Full details of our Privacy Policy can be found [here](#).

Your sample will be tested for COVID-19 only and unless positive, it will be destroyed after 7 days.

What do I consent to by taking the test?

You consent to your test results being released to the relevant Health Authorities.

In the event of a positive test, you also consent to your anonymised sample being retained indefinitely for research purposes.