

Fact sheet for employees

RSCADMDOC9/21 FEB 2022

Direct Saliva - COVID-19 test

What is the test?

You are being given this Fact Sheet because your saliva sample 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 sterile tube.

What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. The virus, which can cause mild to severe respiratory illness, was first identified in China, and has now spread globally.

Some people that test positive for COVID-19 using a surveillance test such as this, have no symptoms. This means the test is capable of detecting the presence of the COVID-19 virus in a person before symptoms start.

Why am I being tested?

Your employer is safeguarding the business and your fellow workers from the risk of a COVID-19 outbreak at your work place.

As some COVID-19 infected people do not have symptoms, this is best achieved through a regular surveillance program of all employees.

Your employer will be informed of the results of your test.

What are the benefits of the test?

The benefits of this test are that it is non-invasive and there is no discomfort by taking this test. It will give you the confidence that you and your fellow workers are free of COVID-19.

The results of your test may help to limit the spread of COVID-19 to your family, fellow workers and others in your community.

What if I have a positive 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 work with you to determine how best to care for you as well as assist you in following MoH COVID-19 guidelines.

What if I have a negative 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.

How will my Privacy be respected?

You will be asked to provide your date of birth, NHI number and contact details. This will ensure that your sample is correctly identified throughout the screening process.

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 testing for COVID 19 only and unless positive, it will be destroyed after 7 days

What do I consent to by taking this test?

You consent to your test results being released to your employer, and, in the event of a positive test, also 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.