

Fact sheet for employers

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Direct Saliva - COVID-19 test

This test should be performed on consenting employees only.

The purpose of this Fact Sheet

This Fact Sheet contains information to help you understand the known and potential risks and benefits of using the validated direct Saliva-to-RT-qPCR test.

This is an accurate and non-invasive test for use on saliva specimens from consenting members of your workforce.

Why should my workplace be tested?

This test will safeguard your business and workforce from the risk of a COVID-19 outbreak.

As many COVID-19 infected people do not have symptoms, protection is best achieved through a regular screening program of all employees. This means that any case of COVID-19 will be detected early, allowing isolation to protect others.

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 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.

What if an employee gets a positive result?

If one of your employees receives a positive test result, it is very likely that they have COVID-19.

This is a notifiable disease and the Ministry of Health will be notified.

The employee's healthcare provider must also be contacted. As the employer you will need to deep clean the areas where your employee has been and identify other workers that may have come into contact with the virus.

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, as an employer, confidence that the people in your workforce are free of COVID-19 and may help to limit the spread of COVID-19 to their families and others in their community.

What if an employee gets a negative result?

A negative test result means it is very likely that the employee does not have COVID-19 and can return to your COVID-free workplace.