



## 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](#).

<b>Test Laboratory:</b>	PathGroup
<b>Test Manufacturer:</b>	Hologic
<b>Test Name:</b>	Aptima SARS-CoV-2 Assay
<b>Positive Percent Agreement (sensitivity):</b>	100.0%
<b>Negative Percent Agreement (specificity):</b>	98.2%
<b>Hologic Fact Sheet:</b>	<a href="#">Hologic Fact Sheet for Patients</a>

**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.