



# Respiratory season is here

## Know your testing options



Experts predict higher rates of respiratory viruses like **COVID-19** and influenza this fall.

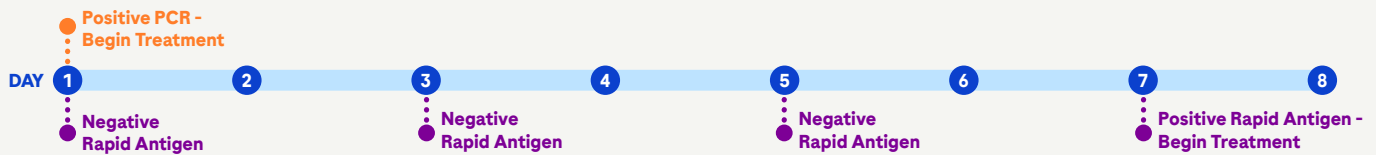


Did you know multiplex PCR tests can identify COVID-19 and influenza viruses in one swab?

Two main types of tests diagnose these different respiratory infections: polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and rapid antigen

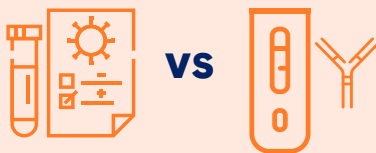
The CDC recommends confirming test results with PCR or serial antigen testing for a negative antigen test, due to the potential risk of false negatives.

*Most COVID-19 and flu antivirals are most effective within 5 days and 48 hours of symptom onset, respectively.*



## PCR vs Rapid Antigen

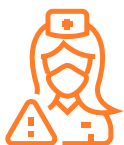
**PCR tests** detect genetic material, making them the most accurate and reliable test, and are typically administered at a doctor's office. **Results can take minutes to hours.**



**Antigen tests** can be administered at a doctor's office or testing facility, or purchased online or at retail facilities and taken at home in self-test form. **Results are available in just 15 to 20 minutes.**

## Making the Right Choice

PCR is recommended for anyone needing definitive results – including high-risk individuals and their family members or close contacts. PCR tests:



Provide your doctor with more accurate test results



Can help doctors confirm COVID-19 and the flu for treatment when similar symptoms are present that make diagnosis difficult



Are the best option for early detection when treatment is most effective

Talk to your provider about PCR testing for the most accurate results to protect yourself and your loved ones this respiratory season.

Learn more at [go.roche.com/respiratoryseason](https://go.roche.com/respiratoryseason)