

# Rapid Antigen Tests

## What is a rapid antigen test for COVID-19?

- Rapid antigen tests are a screening tool to help detect COVID-19 in people who do not have symptoms.
- It is quick and easy and can be done at home with results available in 10 minutes.

## When should I consider a rapid antigen test?

- before attending a gathering with people in crowded indoor or outdoor places e.g. family gatherings, weddings, Sorry Business, busy pubs and clubs.
- before visiting a person vulnerable to infection, such as an elderly person or a person who is immunocompromised.
- before going to a high risk setting e.g. aged care facility or disability group home.
- returning from a place with a high number of COVID-19 cases.
- if you have no symptoms, if you have symptoms you need to get a nose and throat test and isolate until a negative result.

It is important to carefully read the instructions included in your test kit as not all rapid antigen tests are the same.

## When should I not consider a rapid antigen test?

- If you have any COVID-19 symptoms **do not** consider a rapid antigen test. Get a standard PCR (nose and throat swab) test straight away, and isolate until you receive a negative result.
- If you are a close or casual contact and have been directed to get tested by NSW Health. You must get a PCR test. Do not do a rapid antigen test.

## What do I do if my rapid antigen test is positive?

- Immediately get a standard PCR (nose and throat swab) test at a NSW testing clinic to confirm the result of your rapid antigen test.
- Self-isolate until you get a negative test result.

## What do I do if I get negative rapid antigen test result?

- You are unlikely to have COVID-19 and don't need to do anything.
- If you receive a negative rapid antigen test result but develop COVID-19 symptoms at any time, even if mild, you should immediately get a nose and throat test and self-isolate until you get a negative result.