

COVID-19 Testing: Long Term Care & Congregate Care settings

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



HEALTH
Department



What is an at-home test?

An at-home test, also known as a self-test or over-the-counter (OTC) test, is a self-administered test used to detect COVID-19. You collect your sample, perform the test, and read the result yourself without sending a sample to a laboratory.



When should a resident or staff member take a test?

- Testing is recommended immediately (but not earlier than 24 hours after the exposure) and, if negative, again 48 hours after the first negative test and, if negative, again 48 hours after the second negative test.
 - This will typically be on day 1 (where day of exposure is day 0), day 3, and day 5.
- Due to challenges in interpreting the result, testing is generally not recommended for asymptomatic people who have recovered from SARS-CoV-2 infection in the prior 30 days.
 - Testing should be considered for those who have recovered in the prior 31-90 days; however, an antigen test instead of a nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) is recommended. This is because some people may remain NAAT positive but not be infectious during this period.
- For more information visit: [CDC "Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Pandemic"](#)



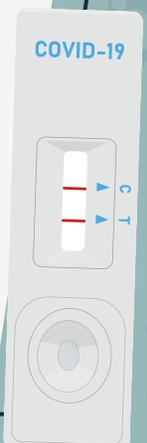
How many test kits should my facility have on hand?

To calculate how many test kits your facility should have on hand, follow the formula below:

of employees _____ + # of residents _____

Total: _____

Total: _____ × 3 = # of test kits to keep on hand _____





Where can I order at-home tests for my facility?

- POC Antigen Test Ordering: <https://bit.ly/3wreui5>
 - This form is for approved facilities to order COVID-19 Tests from MDHHS or for requesting Testing Events (vendor testing support) performed by an MDHHS vendor. As supplies and resources are limited, information collected is used to help prioritize distribution and determine approval of requests.
- OTC Ordering Form: <https://bit.ly/3lrbf0X>
 - You can use this form when your agency runs out of test kits or by the last Friday of the month. MDHHS will send out tests monthly - please note that you may receive a different brand due to availability.

For more information visit www.michigan.gov/coronavirus



How do I check if my at-home test kits have extended expiration dates?

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has granted many at-home test kits shelf-life and expiration date extensions. If you have at-home test kits on hand that have expired dates on them, there are a few different websites you can visit to check if the manufacturer has extended expiration dates and shelf-life for the test kits by searching either the company name or lot number:

- iHealth Labs Test Kits: <http://bit.ly/3kFQFk3>
- BinaxNOW Test Kits: <https://bit.ly/4159mhU>
- At-Home COVID-19 Tests | FDA: <http://bit.ly/3R2L1V3>



Reporting Results:

To view the MDHHS reporting requirements, visit the [MDHHS Long Term Care COVID-19 page](#).

Your facility may have you conduct other positive case reporting, but this does not guarantee that ACHD is notified. To report results:

- Contact our front desk at (269) 673-5411 or
- [Fill out the Long-Term Care and Congregate Care Reporting Form here.](#)

For employees of a residential care facility:

- Complete the [Business Case Reporting Form](#).