

What does a positive test mean if I don't have symptoms?

When there is virus in the sample, the test is very effective at picking it up. Even if a person with COVID-19 has fully recovered and is no longer contagious, they may still test positive. The significance of a positive test if you have never had symptoms is still unknown. You should self-isolate and monitor for symptoms as directed by Peterborough Public Health.

Can the test determine if I had COVID-19 in the past (but not now)?

No. This is not an antibody/serology test. This swab test only determines if you have COVID-19 at the time the test is collected. Currently, antibody/serology tests are not yet available in Ontario.

Can I be tested again if I have already been assessed/tested for COVID-19?

Yes. If you feel you may have been exposed to COVID-19 or you have developed new symptoms since you were last assessed or tested, you may be assessed and/or tested again.

I've been tested for COVID-19.

Now what?

Peterborough Public Health has developed a detailed instruction sheet for people who have been tested for COVID-19. Please request a copy of these instructions when you are being tested. You can also download a copy at www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca.



Where should I get tested for COVID-19?

Information for residents of Peterborough City and County



SEPTEMBER 17, 2020

Testing for COVID-19 is now available to residents of Peterborough City and County, whether or not they have symptoms. Residents are asked to select the appropriate option from the list below based on their symptoms. Please bring your Ontario Health Card with you.

Drive-through testing

For community members who do not have symptoms of COVID-19

Drive-through testing is available on a first-come, first-served basis at Eastgate Memorial Park, located at 2150 Ashburnham Drive, Peterborough. Drive-through testing is available at this location effective Monday, September 21, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.

This drop-in COVID-19 testing service is made possible through a partnership between Peterborough Regional Health Centre (PRHC), Peterborough County-City Paramedics, and Peterborough Public Health.



PRHC COVID-19 Assessment Centre

For community members with mild symptoms of COVID-19

The COVID-19 Assessment Centre at PRHC is currently providing medical assessments and testing for patients who have mild symptoms of COVID-19.

These appointments take approximately 10-15 minutes per person. Please contact the Assessment Centre directly at 705-876-5086 to book an appointment. The phone line is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m seven days a week. PRHC is located at 1 Hospital Drive in Peterborough.

PRHC Emergency Department

For community members with severe symptoms of COVID-19

Patients with severe symptoms of COVID-19 should call 911 or go to the Emergency Department for care. Please be clear about your symptoms with 911 dispatch/the screeners at the Emergency Department entrance to ensure the appropriate level of care and precaution is provided.

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

- Fever/chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Sore throat
- Runny nose
- Nasal congestion
- Difficulty swallowing
- Unexplained headache
- Loss of taste or smell
- Nausea/vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Abdominal pain
- Unexplained muscle aches

What does a negative test mean?

If you test negative for COVID-19, you probably were not infected at the time your sample was collected. This does not mean you will not get sick. It also does not mean that you will not be exposed to, test positive for or become sick with COVID-19 at any time after your test. The test result only means that you likely did not have COVID-19 **at the time of testing.**

Even if your test result comes back negative, it is important to continue following all recommended precautions to prevent the spread of illness between yourself and others:

- Clean your hands well and frequently
- Keep two metres away from other people in shared spaces
- Wear a handmade mask in public areas where maintaining social distance is more challenging (e.g. the grocery store)