



Testing for COVID-19

Who should get tested for COVID-19?

1. People who have symptoms of COVID-19
 - If you have symptoms of COVID-19 and want to get tested, call your healthcare provider first.
2. People who have had close contact (within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 10 minutes) with someone with confirmed COVID-19
3. People who have been referred to get tested by your healthcare provider, state, or local health department

Not everyone needs to be tested for COVID-19

Results

- **If you test positive**, know what protective steps to [prevent others from getting sick](#). After a positive test CDC recommendation is you **are NOT retested** for 3 months.
- **If you test negative**, you probably were not infected at the time your sample was collected. The test result only means that you did not have COVID-19 at the time of testing. Continue to take steps to [protect yourself](#).

When should I get re-tested?

I tested negative for COVID-19 virus, I don't have symptoms, but I want to get another test.

- People should only get re-tested for COVID-19 if they have either reasons 1,2, or 3 listed above.

I tested positive for COVID-19 virus and self-isolated the recommended 10 days until my symptoms were gone, when should I get re-tested?

- The New Jersey Department of Health does not recommend routine re-testing once someone has cleared isolation unless new symptoms develop.

*For persons previously diagnosed with symptomatic COVID-19 who remain asymptomatic after recovery, retesting is not recommended **within 3 months** after the date of symptom onset for the initial COVID-19 infection. For persons who never developed symptoms, the date of their first positive COVID-19 viral test should be used in place of the date of symptom onset. If re-testing is performed within 3 months, re-isolation would not be needed and quarantine would not be recommended in the event of close contact with an infected person.*