

What to Do While You Wait for a COVID-19 Test Result

If you take a COVID-19 test that needs to be sent to a lab, such as a PCR test, it may take several days to get your results back.

If you have any symptoms of COVID-19:

- Stay home and away from others (isolate).
- Start wearing a high-quality, well-fitting mask around others, even in your home.
- If your test result is positive, follow the public health recommendations on [If You Are Sick or Test Positive](#) guideline
- If your test result is negative, continue to stay home if you have symptoms or feel sick. **If you were exposed to COVID-19, but do not have symptoms:**
 - Wear a high-quality, well-fitting mask around others.
 - If you get a positive test result, stay home and away from others (isolate). If you get a negative test result, continue to wear a mask and watch for symptoms for 10 full days after the last day you were near someone who has COVID-19. If you get symptoms, stay home and get tested again.
 - For more information, visit [Close Contacts](#) or [Exposure](#)