COVID-19 Viral Testing

COVID-19 is a disease that can cause fever, shortness of breath, and pneumonia in many individuals infected with the coronavirus. COVID-19 viral testing is available throughout California.

Viral Test

A viral test tells you if you have an infection

What Do Your Viral Test Results Mean?

The results of your viral test will be positive or negative.

POSITIVE VIRAL TEST: This means you have the infection right now. You may or may not be showing signs of the disease at the time of testing. You may be able to spread the virus from 48-72 hours before showing symptoms to up to 14 days after the first appearance of symptoms. If your viral test is repeated after you begin to feel better, you may continue to have positive test results. The exact time frame of remaining positive with the virus after recovery is not known, though you may not be able to spread the virus at this point.

NEGATIVE VIRAL TEST: This means you were not infected with the virus at the time your test was done. After your viral test has been completed, you can still get infected with the virus at a later time. You can still get exposed to the virus. You can still test positive and get COVID-19 at a later time.

What Are Your Next Steps After Getting Your Test Results?

I RECEIVED A POSITIVE TEST RESULT: No matter what your symptoms may be at the time of testing, it is highly recommended that you seek guidance from your health care provider on next steps and treatment options.

I RECEIVED A NEGATIVE TEST RESULT: It is encouraged that you continue to practice physical distancing and follow the stay-at-home guidelines of your state or local county government.

Where Can You Get Tested for COVID-19?

You can find a testing site near you using the following website: **https://testing.covid19.ca.gov/**

Want More Info?

California Rural Indian Health Board, Inc: **https://crihb.org/prevention-and-education/public-health**
California COVID-19 Response: **https://covid19.ca.gov**
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: **https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov**