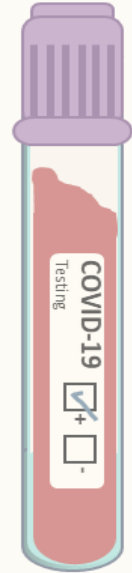# Testing for COVID-19

COVID tests

Two kinds of tests are available for COVID-19

✔ **Viral test** – Tells you if you have a current infection.

✔ **Antibody test** – Tells you if you have a previous infection or exposure to coronavirus.

Type of test	Sample	Value	Advantage	Disadvantage
Viral test/ RT- PCR test	Nasal/ oral swabs	Provides infection status	• Tests virus directly • High specificity rate	• Time consuming • Requires trained staff • Costly
Antibody test/ Rapid test	Blood	Provides information on status/ exposure to the virus	• Faster results • Less costly • No need of trained staff	• Tests for antibodies only, not virus • Cannot detect early infection

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