

COVID 19 RAPID TESTING?

WHAT TYPE OF RAPID TEST ?

There are many different types of Rapid Covid 19 testing. We provide a quality BD Veritor SARS-CoV2 machine testing in office for patients who have fever in addition to other symptoms. This will take a minimum of 20 minutes processing.

When using rapid testing of any type with no symptoms, you will have up to a 30% false negative, meaning your child may actually still be incubating COVID 19 virus and not yet showing positive on the Rapid type testing. In addition, nasal mucous testing requires a good sample of mucous from the nasopharynx, rather than just inside the nose, for early testing. Saliva testing in the first few days of exposure or illness may also lead to false negatives.

The process or progress of the virus is to have antigen appear in 2-7 days after exposure, and appear first in the nasal mucosa and after a few days of infection, then to appear in the saliva.

COVID PCR TESTING

We do PCR testing, the gold standard on all patients who present with negative rapid testing to confirm it is fully accurate. We also do drive up COVID 19 PCR testing by appointment for:

- *patients who have known exposure, but no symptoms.
- *patients with mild symptoms
- * patients who need proof of negative for travel



**COPPELL
PEDIATRICS**



If my child had COVID 19 infection, can he/she get the infection again?

Sure, just like you can get influenza many times in a lifetime without vaccine. If your child is exposed to a new variant of COVID 19, then he/she is not immune to the new variant. We have actually seen patients without immunization, get the original COVID 19 infection, then Delta variant, and then Omicron.

If my child was infected with COVID 19 and I want to get him/her the vaccine, how long do I wait?

Your child can get the vaccine when he/she has no symptoms for 2 weeks.

WHAT TO DO IF MY CHILD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID 19 INFECTION?

*Stay home, stay in quarantine. Do not expose other children or adults to your child outside your family.

*Do NOT send your well children or adults at home to stay at another location. Chances are quite high that your well children and adults at home have already had greater than 10 minute exposure less than 6 feet away from your ill child for few days prior to the first child or adult getting sick in the home. Sending your child to stay with another relative or in a hotel will only expose others as your well child is likely incubating the virus and within 2-7 days may have symptoms of COVID 19 and spread to others easily.



*Quarantine until your child has NO symptoms for 48 hours, then call our office to schedule a re-test for proof of resolution. Do not try to re-test with “just a little cough or just a little congestion” because we see most patients with any symptoms at all still test positive.

*Call our office if your child cannot keep fluids down due to vomiting, or is short of breath, has increased work of breathing using rib muscles sucking in and out, oxygen saturation at home is less than 94%, or further concerns.

WHEN CAN I IMMUNIZE MY INFANT OR TODDLER? IS IT SAFE?

Pfizer-BioNTech has requested the FDA to evaluate data on infants 6mos to children 4 years old in February 2022. If and / or when FDA approves the vaccine for 6m to 4 y olds, then the CDC will evaluate the data further as well as the ACIP (American College of Immunization Practices) and the AAP (American Academy of Pediatrics). When these entities have fully evaluated the data, and if approval is granted, then we will text and email our patients in that age group to begin scheduling for COVID vaccine for the youngest age group. However, we will not give vaccine until it is approved by both the CDC and the FDA.



What do I do if my child is sick and does not have COVID 19?

Remember there are still all the other possibilities of infections that occurred prior to COVID 19 appearance.

Your child will need a rapid flu test also if he/she has fever and upper respiratory symptoms.

Some kids get cold viruses, sore throat viruses, and stomach viruses, which can look just like COVID 19. Ask our providers what to do next if your child still has fever or symptoms and COVID 19 has been ruled out.

Can I just go to the pharmacy to get my child tested?

That is certainly an option. However, not all pharmacies provide PCR testing. Not all pharmacies have 24 hour or less result testing.

Can I test my child to “stay in school?”

Some schools will allow test to stay, and others will not. Some schools will do rapid tests to keep students in school. Those will be rapid test kits done→ not a follow up PCR. See above→ for potential false negatives, and negative due to too early testing. Remember this may be more financially based since “seat time in class, means the school gets state funds for that student for that day in school”.



“We care for kids! And kids are not little adults.”

If the school calls or texts that my child was “exposed”, what do I do?

We would recommend that you observe your child for any symptoms for the next 7 days. It could be as mild as a persistent headache even after given Tylenol or a sore throat or nasal congestion. If your child develops symptoms, then please call asap to schedule testing. Remain in quarantine at home until testing is done and results are available.

How fast do I get results?

Our rapid test results are done in about 20 minutes in office for those with fever and symptoms. The PCR confirmatory test or PCR done for drive up only patients are picked up at 9pm nightly for lab processing. You will register with HealthTrax Lab and receive real time text and email as soon as results are available, usually within 12-24 hours.



What if I took J& J vaccine and now need a booster?

We do not carry J&J vaccine at this time due to the effectiveness is slightly lower than Moderna or Pfizer.

You may choose to get J&J vaccine from the local health department or a local pharmacy.

You may choose to “mix and match” meaning you can get a booster dose of Moderna or Pfizer as an adult.

The only vaccine for children 15 years and under approved by CDC and FDA is Pfizer. **Want more information on COVID 19 vaccine?** Trust sites that have no monetary, political or personal opinions. Check for .gov, .edu, or .org.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/children-teens.html>

Could I get a booster vaccine when my child gets his or her vaccine at Coppell Pediatrics?

We are happy to immunize parents, grandparents, nannies, aunts, uncles, neighbors, etc. Just call and we will get you scheduled.

Do you carry Moderna, Pfizer and J&J vaccine?

We currently have Pfizer Vaccine for 5-11 year olds, Pfizer Vaccine for 12 years thru adult. We also have Moderna vaccine. We pick up new doses from the Dallas County Health Department about every 2 to 4 weeks to maintain our supply.



Should my child get a COVID 19 vaccine?

Covid 19 vaccine has been given to **At least 250,262,153** people or 76% of the population have received at least one dose as of January 23, 2022. That means a quarter of a billion people have taken at least 1 dose. The CDC keeps constant track of potential side effects thru V-Safe, a registry for all patients who receive vaccine. We have certainly seen far more unimmunized patients ill with COVID 19 than those without vaccine.

Vaccine is available for children 5 years old and up. We provide Pfizer vaccine in appropriate dose size for each age group. We offer vaccine visits weekdays as well as scheduled Saturday vaccine clinics.

Remember all persons 12 years and up, who have had COVID vaccine 2 doses will be due for 6 month booster vaccine to maintain immunity.

Boosters remind our body to maintain immunity. All vaccines have booster doses. For example, DTap is given at 2mo, 4 mo, 6 mo, 15 mo, 4 years, 11 years and then every 10 years. The human body is not perfect and the immune system needs reminders to maintain immunity.