



COVID-19: Overview of test types

	PCR nasopharyngeal or saliva	Pooled PCR test Saliva (combined samples)	Rapid antigen test Nasopharyngeal	Rapid antigen test Nose	Self-test Nose
<i>Analysis in</i>	Lab	Lab	On site (e.g. pharmacy)	On site (e.g. pharmacy)	Anywhere
<i>Sampling done by</i>	Specifically trained person	Anyone	Specifically trained person	Specifically trained person	Anyone
<i>Availability of validated tests</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (1 test validated to date)	Yes
<i>Reliability</i>	Very high	High	High	Good when symptomatic; Without symptoms presumably lower	Not recommended when symptomatic; Without symptoms presumably low
<i>Suitable for the following occasions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Persons with symptoms – Persons with contact to COVID-19 case – Confirmation of positive rapid or self-test 	Regular testing in e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Companies – Schools – Care home staff – Sports club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Persons with symptoms – Persons with contact to COVID-19 case – Individuals in contact with vulnerable persons (e.g. visitors to care homes) – On-demand testing e.g. in pharmacies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – On-demand testing e.g. in pharmacies – Regular tests possible if enough suitable tests available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – On-demand testing only e.g. at home
<i>Consequences if test is positive</i>	Isolation	PCR test for confirmation; Isolation	PCR test for confirmation, unless symptoms present or recent contact with COVID-19 case; Isolation	PCR test for confirmation; Isolation	PCR test for confirmation; Isolation
<i>Cost coverage</i>	Federal (exclusively for occasions listed above)	Federal	Federal	Federal	Federal