At-home collection kits and tests are currently available over the counter (OTC). OTC tests do not require a prescription and are available in a pharmacy or retail store. Your provider may also provide you a kit through a prescription. OTC kits are Antigen tests and not PCR tests.

Instructions provided in the test kit box should be followed precisely.

- Most OTC test kits come in a pack that contains two test cards.
  - If the first test is negative, you should retest 36–72 hours after your first test.
  - If either one of the test results is positive, you are considered positive for SARS-CoV-2 infection.
    - If the first test is positive you do not need to do the 2nd test as a subsequent negative test does not overrule the first positive test.
  - If you test positive, please isolate for 5 days and notify your close contacts that they should quarantine per current guidance in order to help prevent the disease from spreading.
    - For guidance on what to do once you test positive: [https://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/epi/id/pages/covid-19/nowwhat.aspx](https://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/epi/id/pages/covid-19/nowwhat.aspx)
    - If you have questions about how to isolate or how to notify your contacts, you can call 1-907-531-3329.
  - Two negative test results should be interpreted with caution in symptomatic individuals.
    - Consider getting a more sensitive test, such as a PCR test, especially if you have classic COVID symptoms or if you were a close contact to a confirmed COVID case within the past 14 days.

- Share your positive test results with your healthcare provider to learn about possible treatment options or any other appropriate medical follow-up you might need.

- Currently, people who test positive do not need to report results from OTC tests to the Alaska Section of Epidemiology (SOE). This might change in the future; if so, we will update this guidance accordingly.
  - SOE is not currently performing contact tracing on OTC test results; this might also change in the future.
  - If the test kits were provided to you or self-testing was requested by a school, workplace, event, or other group or organization, the associated entity might ask you to share your results with them. If so, contact tracing might also be initiated by your school, workplace, or organization.

- Consider using an OTC self-test before joining indoor gatherings with others who are not in your household.


### Using Antigen Tests for SARS-CoV-2 in Community Settings

**Figure 2. Antigen Test Algorithm for Community Settings**

- **Asymptomatic**
  - Antigen Negative
  - Antigen Positive

- **Symptomatic**
  - Antigen Negative
  - Antigen Positive

- **If No Known Exposure:**
  - No Need to Quarantine

- **If Close Contact or Suspected Exposure:**
  - Quarantine

- **Indicates SARS-CoV-2 Infection:**
  - Isolate