



COVID TESTING INFORMATION (for patients)

Type	Available at SignatureCare?	How long before I can get a result?	Brief Overview
Antigen test	Yes On Site.	Results typically back in about 15 Minutes	Rapid antigen tests are easily performed at our ER with a nasal swab . The test detects viral protein in an actively infected person. The manufacturer published data that states that the test is 100% specific (Meaning: if it is positive it is 100% accurate), and that it is 80% sensitive (meaning: if it is negative, it is 80% accurate).
Antibody Test	Yes (send Out)	Results typically back in 1 to 2 days but may take 10 days or longer	Antibody tests check your blood by looking for antibodies, which can show if you had a past infection with the virus that causes COVID-19. Antibodies are proteins that help fight off infections and usually provide protection against getting that disease again (immunity). Antibodies are disease specific. For example, measles antibody will protect a person who is exposed again to measles but will have no effect if the person is exposed to mumps. Depending on when someone was infected and the timing of the test, the test may not find antibodies in someone with a current COVID-19 infection. Antibody tests should not be used to diagnose active COVID-19 infection.
Molecular test (PCR)	Yes (send Out)	Results may take 10 days or longer	PCR tests are performed with a nasal or oral swab . The test detects viral genetic material (RNA). It is considered very accurate, but takes more time. If you have symptoms, and other tests are not showing it, then you may need to consider a PCR test.