



CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION COVID-19 FACILITY TESTING

Common Questions & Answers

1. What kind of test is this?
 - a. The COVID Test is a nasopharyngeal swab that detects for active COVID-19 virus. It is not the antibody test that shows if you ever had COVID, it only tells us if you have active COVID.
 - b. A swab is placed up your nasal cavity to gather secretions. It remains in your nose for about 6-10 seconds and then is put in a tube and sent to a lab for analysis.
2. How accurate is the test?
 - a. The test has a 99% accuracy rate for positive results. That means if the test comes back positive, 99% of the time it is accurate.
 - b. There is larger room for error for negatives. That means in some cases the test will come back as negative when the patient does in fact have active COVID. Symptom monitoring is key to assist with this.
3. When do I get my results?
 - a. Results will be back in 3-4 days. No news is good news. Only inmates that are positive will be contacted.
4. What happen if I test Positive?
 - a. You will be allowed to pack up your property and will be relocated to a medical isolation area at your current facility.
 - b. If you have a job, your job will be held for you until you are done with your isolation.
5. What happens if I test Negative?
 - a. You will remain in your current location.
 - b. You will have a confirmed negative test on record in your health record.
6. What happens if I refuse testing?
 - a. It is your right to refuse the test. However if you refuse we will not know if you are negative or positive. We have a duty to keep the entire population safe, therefore you will be quarantined for 14 days at your facility.
 - b. If you refuse the test and you have a job your job will not be held for you.
7. What if I already tested positive?
 - a. You do not need to have the test. Just let the testers know the day of.
8. What if I already tested negative?
 - a. If you tested negative within the last 7 days you do not need to have the test again.
 - b. If you tested negative over 7 days ago then Health Services recommends you take the test.
9. Other things to know?
 - a. COVID testing is now required for MANY outside programs, HWH admissions, even appointments at UConn. As services start to open there is a good chance you will need a negative swab on record.
 - b. Mass testing at DOC is the first step in an effort to get our facilities back to normal operations. Your participation is highly encouraged.