COVID-19 What to Expect After Being Tested for COVID-19

If you have been tested for COVID-19, follow the steps below to monitor your health and avoid spreading the disease to others:

Communicate with Public Health

• Public health will contact you with your results as soon as possible. It may be a week or longer, depending on demand.

Monitor Your Health

TN Department of

.Health

If you are ill:

- You should isolate yourself at home while you wait for results.
- Stay in a specific room and away from other people in your home to the extent possible. Use a separate bathroom, if available. Household members can consider staying in a separate location, if available, to decrease their risk of exposure.
- Where possible, ask others such as friends or family, to get food or necessities for you.
- Get plenty of rest, stay hydrated and, if needed, take medication to reduce your fever.
- If your symptoms get worse and you need to seek healthcare, call ahead and tell the provider that you have been tested for COVID-19. This will help the healthcare provider's office take steps to keep other people from getting infected or exposed.

If you are well:

- Watch for fever, cough and shortness of breath.
- If your symptoms are mild, stay home and monitor your health. If you need medical assessment, call the health clinic or hospital before you arrive and tell the provider that you have been tested for COVID-19.

Practice Healthy Habits

- Cover your cough or sneeze into your elbow or a tissue.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for \geq 20 seconds, or use alcohol-based hand rub if soap and water are not available.
- Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces regularly, including your phone.

Learn More

- Online: <u>www.tn.gov/health/cedep/ncov</u> or <u>www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov</u>
- What to expect after being diagnosed: www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/documents/cedep/novel-coronavirus/CaseGuidance.pdf
- What to expect if you were exposed: <u>www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/documents/cedep/novel-</u> <u>coronavirus/CloseContactGuidance.pdf</u>



COVID-19 What To Do If Your Test Results Are Negative

If you have tested negative (or "not detected") for COVID-19, learn how to monitor your health and protect others:

Have you been around anyone who has COVID-19?

If you live with, care for, or have recently spent time around someone diagnosed with COVID-19:

Quarantine Yourself

- You should stay home for <u>14 days</u> after your last contact with the person with COVID-19.
- Stay in a specific room and away from other people in your home to the extent possible. Use a separate bathroom, if available.
- * If you are considered an essential worker, you may be allowed to work during your quarantine period while wearing a mask at all times.

Monitor Your Health

- If you are not sick, watch for fever, cough and shortness of breath.
- If you have fever, cough or shortness of breath, you may have COVID-19.
- If your symptoms are mild, stay home and monitor your health. If you need medical assessment, call the health clinic or hospital before you arrive and tell the provider that you are a contact to a person who was diagnosed with COVID-19.

Are you sick?

If you have a fever, cough, shortness of breath or other symptoms:

Isolate Yourself

- You should strictly isolate yourself at home.
- Stay in a specific room and away from other people in your home to the extent possible. Use a separate bathroom, if available. Household members can consider staying in a separate location, if available, to decrease their risk of exposure.

Monitor Your Health

- Get plenty of rest and stay hydrated.
- If needed, take over-the-counter medication to reduce your fever or relieve your symptoms.
- If your symptoms get worse and you need to seek healthcare, call ahead and tell the provider your symptoms.

If you are not sick and have not come into contact with anyone with COVID-19...

Protect Yourself and Others

- Follow all the appropriate social distancing recommendations.
- Wear a cloth face covering if in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use alcohol-based hand rub if soap and water are not available.
- Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces regularly, including your phone.
- Cover your cough or sneeze into your elbow or a tissue.