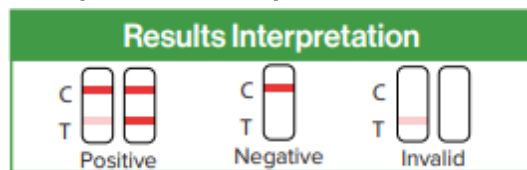


Results

Example of BTNX Rapid Test Results



Negative results

A negative result does not guarantee someone does not have COVID-19 or will not become infected later. However, a negative test will give peace of mind to the family that their child can attend school.

Since you are taking the test twice per week (allowing for three days between tests), it is less likely there will be a false negative result.

It is important to follow all public health measures: physical distancing, wearing a mask, remaining in cohorts and washing hands regularly.

Positive results

If there is a positive rapid test result, the student or staff member will safely isolate at home for 10 days from the date the test was completed unless they receive a subsequent COVID-19 lab test from AHS with a negative result.

A positive rapid test result cannot confirm someone has COVID-19. Only a more accurate lab-based COVID-19 test at an [AHS testing site](#) can confirm a COVID-19 infection.

Staff and students with a positive rapid screening test result should book an appointment for a COVID-19 test online at www.ahs.ca/covid or call Health Link at 811 as soon as possible.

You do not have to report the results of the rapid tests to the school or AHS.

If something goes wrong with the test

If something went wrong with the test, you won't see any lines—or you may see a line next to the 'T'.

If that happens, you can throw the test away and start over. You can get a new test from the school.

If a student or staff tested positive for COVID-19 in the past

If someone tested positive for COVID-19, screening of these individuals is not recommended until at least six weeks after a COVID-19 diagnosis.

COVID-19 and variants

Only PCR tests can confirm if a person has COVID-19 and if it is a variant of concern. These are the tests done at an AHS assessment centre.

How accurate are rapid tests?

Rapid screening tests are not as accurate as lab-based tests done through an AHS assessment centre. The likelihood of someone with no symptoms having a false positive result from a rapid test is low. However, all positive results from a rapid screening test need to be confirmed by an AHS lab test. You will need to go to an AHS assessment centre if you or your child test positive. The likelihood of someone with no symptoms having a false negative result is higher. A negative result on a rapid screening test does not mean that person is not infected or could not become infectious.

When a rapid COVID-19 test is used in people without symptoms, it is a screening test, not a diagnostic test. Screening individuals with rapid tests can identify some, but not all, contagious individuals and, as a result, rapid screening does not replace public health measures such as physical distancing, masking, hand hygiene, staying home and accessing testing when sick and the mandatory isolation of COVID-19 cases.

If you have more questions

If you have questions about this school rapid screening test program, please email EDC.SchoolRapidTesting@gov.ab.ca.

For the latest COVID-19 information visit www.alberta.ca/Covid19.

If you have questions regarding test results or health outcomes, please contact Health Link at 811.